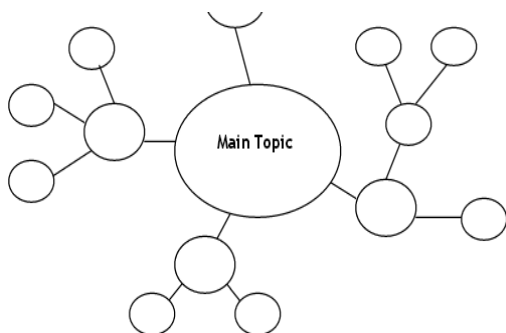# LARGER TEXTUAL PATTERNS

1. GENERAL-SPECIFIC

GENERAL STATEMENT
↓
SPECIFIC DETAIL 1
SPECIFIC DETAIL 2
SPECIFIC DETAIL 3….

DAVID CAMERON: Well, there is no doubt when it comes to the economy that we are badly prepared. You know we have the highest tax burden in our history. We've got one the highest levels of budget deficit of any developed country. We've got one the highest inflation rates in the G7, we're not well prepared…

DAVID CAMERON: (*GENERAL STATEMENT)*
Well, there is no doubt when it comes to the economy that we are badly prepared.
(*SPECIFIC STATEMENT 1)* You know we have the highest tax burden in our history.
(*SPECIFIC STATEMENT 2)* We've got one the highest levels of budget deficit of any developed country. (*SPECIFIC STATEMENT 3)* We've got one the highest inflation rates in the G7, (*GENERAL STATEMENT)* we're not well prepared…

(GENERAL STATEMENT) Writing is a complex sociocognitive process involving complex skills which range from making the appropriate graphic marks, through utilising the resources of the chosen language, to anticipating the reactions of the intended readers. (SPECIFIC STATEMENT 1) The first skill area involves acquiring a writing system, which may be alphabetic (as in European languages) or nonalphabetic (as in many Asian languages). (SPECIFIC STATEMENT 2) The second skill area requires selecting the appropriate grammar and vocabulary to form acceptable sentences and then arranging them in paragraphs. (SPECIFIC STATEMENT 3) Third, writing involves thinking about the purpose of the text to be composed and about its possible effects on the intended readership.

GENERAL-SPECIFIC SIGNAL WORDS

for instance
for example
such as
to illustrate
most important
in addition
another
furthermore
first, second...
also
to begin with

2. CLAIM-COUNTERCLAIM

CLAIM 1
COUNTERCLAIM 1
↓
CLAIM 2
COUNTERCLAIM 2
↓
CLAIM 3
COUNTERCLAIM 3

CLAIM 1
CLAIM 2
CLAIM 3
↓
COUNTERCLAIM 1
COUNTERCLAIM 2
COUNTERCLAIM 3

 Many critics of Thomas Hardy argue that Tess of the d'Urbervilles exhibits a fatalistic vision. They label it the "darkest" of Hardy's novels because the force that brings about the tragic circumstances of the characters, be it Fate or a transcendent being, is not, as it seems to be in other novels, impersonal—it is malevolent. This reading misses the central focus of Hardy's art. Indeed, the characters often exhibit a fatalistic understanding of their circumstances (especially Joan Durbeyfield), but their views are set apart from those of the narrator. The narrator instead understands that the final tragedy of the novel is brought about by human action and choice. Each tragic event occurs as a result of the faulty decisions of one or more characters.
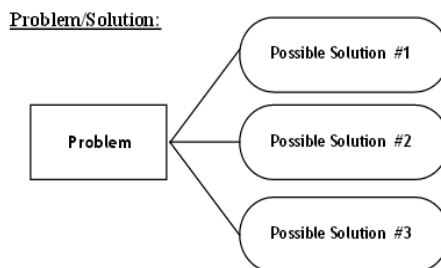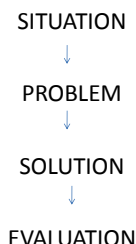
CLAIM - COUNTERCLAIM
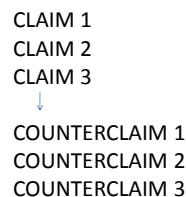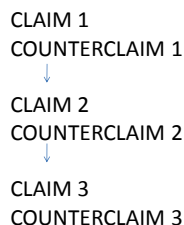
(CLAIM 1) Perhaps the most efficient security method is a so-called Safe Traveler Card or national ID card. (CLAIM 2) They enable people to drive on highways, bridges, and tunnels without having to stop and pay tolls. As attractive as Safe Traveler Cards or national ID cards are, they are not without drawbacks. (COUNTERCLAIM 2) For one thing, as Easterbrook notes, these cards would expedite security procedures only for travelers who do not mind volunteering such information to obtain a card. (COUNTERCLAIM 1) Moreover they would not prevent passengers with "clean" backgrounds from bringing weapons or explosives on board, as was the case in the September 11 attacks.

CLAIM 1 – CLAIM 2 – COUNTERCLAIM 2 – COUNTERCLAIM 1

3. PROBLEM - SOLUTION

SITUATION
↓
PROBLEM
↓
SOLUTION
↓
EVALUATION

Problem/Solution:

Problem

Possible Solution #1

Possible Solution #2

Possible Solution #3

(SITUATION) Last week we installed a kitty door so that our cat could come and go as she pleases. (PROBLEM) Unfortunately, we ran into a problem. Our cat was afraid to use the kitty door. (SOLUTION) We tried pushing her through, and that caused her to be even more afraid. The kitty door was dark, and she couldn't see what was on the other side. The first step we took in solving this problem was taping the kitty door open. After a couple of days, she was confidently coming and going through the open door. However, when we removed the tape and closed the door, once again, she would not go through. They say you catch more bees with honey, so we decided to use food as bait. We would sit next to the kitty door with a can of wet food and click the top of the can. When kitty came through the closed door, we would open the can and feed her. It took five days of doing this to make her unafraid of using the kitty door. (EVALUATION) Now we have just one last problem; our kitty controls our lives!

(SITUATION + PROBLEM) Our farmers' market is in danger of closing because a building is going to be constructed in the empty lot where it has been held for the past ten years. (SOLUTION) Since the market is such an asset to our community, a committee formed to look for a new location. The first idea was to close a street off for a few hours each Saturday morning. Unfortunately, the city manager nixed that idea since he believed that too many people would complain. Barry Moore suggested that the market could be held in the state park that is just a few miles out of town. Again, a government worker struck down the idea. This time, the problem was that for-profit events are not allowed in state parks. Finally, I came up with the idea, and our government blessed the idea. Since the high school is closed on Saturday, we will be having the market in the school parking lot. (EVALUATION) Everyone loved the idea and it all turned out well.

PROBLEM – SOLUTION SIGNAL WORDS

problem
**the question is**
a solution
one answer is

4. QUESTION - ANSWER

QUESTION
↓
ANSWER

(GENERAL STATEMENT+QUESTION) It's no surprise that London is the most expensive city to stay in, in Britain: we've all heard the horror stories. But just how expensive is it? (ANSWER) According to international hotel consultants Horwath and Horwath's recent report, there are now five London hotels charging over 90 pounds a night for a single room.

4. CAUSE - EFFECT

CAUSE
↓
EFFECT

Cause/Effect:
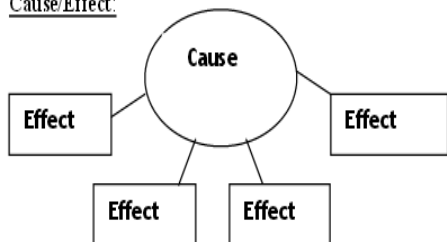
(CAUSE) You will find that your meals benefit greatly from shopping at the farmers' market. You will eat fewer unnatural foods, so you will feel better and have more energy. The freshness of the foods will make your dishes taste and look better. The excitement of finding something new at the market will translate to eagerness to try it out within a meal. (EFFECT) It won't be long until you anticipate going to the farmers' market as a way to enhance the quality of your meals.

CAUSE – EFFECT SIGNAL WORDS

because
since
consequently
this led to…so
if…then
nevertheless
accordingly
because of
as a result of
in order to
may be due to
yet
for this reason
not only…but
also

5. COMPARISON - CONTRAST

(GENERAL STATEMENT)
COMPARISON/CONTRAST – ITEMS 1, 2…
EVALUATION

COMPARISON – CONTRAST

(GENERAL STATEMENT) Tomatoes purchased at the farmers' market are almost **totally different** from tomatoes purchased in a grocery store. (ITEM 1) **To begin with**, although tomatoes from both sources will mostly be red, the tomatoes at the farmers' market are a brighter red **than** those at a grocery store. That doesn't mean they are shinier—in fact, grocery store tomatoes are often shinier since they have been waxed. (ITEM 2) You are likely to see great size variation in tomatoes at the farmers' market, with tomatoes ranging from only a couple of inches across to eight inches across. **By contrast**, the tomatoes in a grocery store will be fairly uniform in size. (ITEM 3) All the visual differences are interesting, but the most important **difference** is the taste. The farmers' market tomatoes will be bursting with flavor from ripening on the vine in their own time. The grocery store tomatoes are often close to flavorless.
(EVALUATION) Unless you have no choice, you really should check out a farmers' market the next time you're shopping for fresh produce.

Comparison/Contrast:
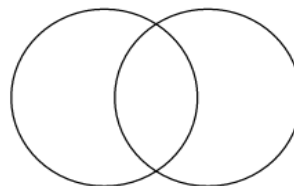
COMPARISON-CONSTRAST SIGNAL WORDS

different from
same as
similar to
as opposed to
instead of
although
however
compared with
as well as
either…or
but
on the other hand
unless

6. ORAL NARRATIVE PATTERN (Labov's model)

Abstract (A)	An indication that the speaker wants a listener's attenion and is signalling the start of the narrative.
Orientation (O)	The 'who', 'where', 'what' and 'why'. This sets the scene and provides background information that the speaker sees as important.
Complicating Action (CA)	The main body of the narrative
Resolution (R)	The ending of the narrative that ties up loose ends and provides closure
Coda (C)	A signal that the narrative has ended

**Abstract** Well (.) **at the weekend I went to get my hair done** **Orientation** **at the salon** (.) when I were there (.) I saw my friend **Complicating Action** who gave me an invitation for her wedding (1) **it was lovely to see her** (.) and a surprise to hear that she was getting married (.) which we will look forward going to in a couple of weeks (1) **after that I** **Complicating Action** **went to the shops and did some shopping with my partner Craig** (.) **then we went home and had the very boring task of putting it all away** (.) not my **Resolution** favourite thing to do (.) **anyway that's all really.** **Coda**

WRITTEN NARRATIVE PATTERN - SEQUENCE

GENERAL STATEMENT
↓
EVENT 1
↓
EVENT 2
↓
EVENT 3…
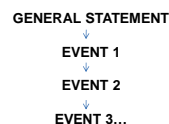
Chronological/Sequence:
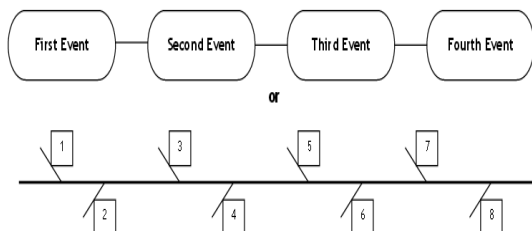
(GENERAL STATEMENT) During the months from May to September, the Loggerhead turtle comes ashore to nest at night. (EVENT 1) First the turtle crawls out of the sea to the beach in search of the right place to build a nest for its eggs. Once the location is identified, (EVENT 2) the turtle digs a hole with its flippers that measures 8" wide and 18" deep. (EVENT 3) Next, the turtle lays around 120 eggs the size of ping-pong balls. (EVENT 4) The turtle then covers the nest by throwing sand over the nest with its flippers. The turtle does this to protect the eggs from predators. (EVENT 5) Finally, the turtle makes its way back to the sea, and does not return to attend to the nest.

SEQUENCE SIGNAL WORDS

first, second...
not long after
next
then
initially
before
after