

Module 9: Nonfiction

Topic 3 Content: Text Features in Expository Nonfiction


Introduction

Text Features in Expository Nonfiction

- Title Page
- Table of Contents
- Headings
- Highlighted Words
- Graphics
- Charts and Tables
- Appendix
- Index

Introduction

How can you locate the information that you need in an expository text, and how do text features and design layout help to clearly explain and organize information? Take a few moments to answer these questions. In this interactivity, click each of the tabs to explore various features that help you to locate and comprehend information.



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Title Page

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Title Page

The title page appears at the beginning of an expository text. It includes important information such as the author's name, the publication date, the edition, or other reference information. Sometimes reports or studies will offer an abstract, or brief summary of the entire text.

The Effect of Reduced Speed Limits on Rate of Automobile Accidents

The National Study Commission
2014

Abstract
This metanalysis examined the incidence of automobile accidents before and after the reduction of speed limits on interstate highways from 1995 to 2013. A total of thirty-five states were included in this study. Data consistently showed a reduction in the rate of accidents with reduced speed limits. The commission recommends a national policy to reduce speed limits on interstate road systems.

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Table of Contents

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Table of Contents

The table of contents is a list of the major divisions of an expository text, such as chapters. Titles of chapters or larger sections of the text can give you an overview of content and organization. Page numbers can guide you to the exact place where a specific section begins.

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Headings

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Headings

Headings are subtitles for smaller sections of text. It is a good idea to peruse the headings for an overview of the content before reading the text from beginning to end. Headings can help you locate specific information so that you do not have to read the entire text.

Properties of Metals

The physical properties of a metal determine its behavior under stress, heat, and exposure to chemically active substances. In practical application, the behavior of a metal under these conditions determines its mechanical properties; indentation and rusting. The mechanical properties of a metal are important considerations in selecting material for a specific job.

Stress

Stress in a metal is its internal resistance to a change in shape. When an external load or force is applied to it, there are three different forms of stress. Tensile stress pulls a metal apart. Compression stress squeezes the metal. Shear stress is forces from opposite directions that work to separate the metal. When a piece of metal is bent, both tensile and compression stresses are applied. The side of the metal where the force is applied undergoes tensile stress as the metal is stretched,

while the opposite side is squeezed under compression stress. When a metal is subjected to torque, such as a pump shaft driven by an electric motor, all three forms of stress are applied to some degree.

Elasticity

Elasticity is the ability of a metal to return to its original size and shape after an applied force has been removed. The action of spring steel is an example of applying this property.

Corrosion Resistance

Corrosion resistance is the ability of a metal to withstand surface attack by the atmosphere, fluids, moisture, and acids. Some metals can be made less susceptible to corrosive agents by either coating or alloying them with other metals that are corrosion resistant.

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Highlighted Words

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Highlighted Words

Important words in an expository text can be highlighted using color or bold text. This format is often applied to glossary terms, so pay close attention to words or phrases that stand out from the rest of the text.

To do a spark test, hold a sample of the material against a **grinding wheel**. The sparks given off, or the lack of sparks, help you identify the metal. Look for the length of the spark stream, its color, and the type of sparks.

Figure 3-2 shows the four fundamental spark forms. View A shows shafts, buds, breaks, and arrows. The arrow or spearhead is characteristic of **molybdenum**, a metallic element of the chromium group that resembles iron and is used to form steel-like alloys with carbon. The **swelling**, or buds, in the spark line indicate nickel with molybdenum. View B shows shafts and **sprigs**, or sparklers, that indicate a high carbon content. View C shows shafts, forks, and sprigs that indicate a medium carbon content. View D shows shafts and forks that indicate a low carbon content.

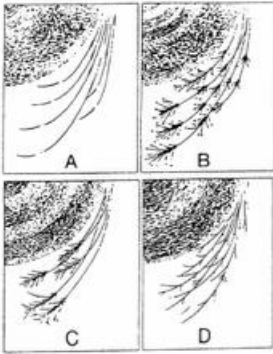


Figure 3-2.—Fundamental spark forms.

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Graphics

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Graphics often play an important role in expository texts. Graphics can appear in the form of maps, photographs, illustrations, diagrams, or icon keys. They can also include decorative features of the design layout that help your eye to see how information is organized on the page.

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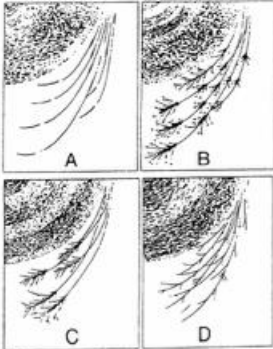


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Charts and Tables

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Charts and Tables

Charts and tables efficiently present information in an organized and easy-to-read format. Pay close attention to how columns and rows are labeled. Sometimes a caption will appear above or below a chart or table that summarizes or explains the data presented.

Table 4.1.—Feed Pressures for Hard, Medium Hard, and Soft Metal

Material	Work thickness				
	0-1/4"	1/4-1/2"	1/2-1"	1-3"	Over 3"
Tool Steel	M	M	H	H	H
Cast iron	M	M	M	H	H
Mild steel	L	M	H	H	H
Nickel-copper	L	M	H	H	H
Copper-nickel	L	L	M	H	H
Zinc	L	L	M	M	M
Lead	L	L	M	M	M

* L—light, M—medium, H—heavy.

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Appendix

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APPENDIX I

GLOSSARY

AISI —American Iron and Steel Institute.	BRONZE —A nonferrous alloy composed of copper and tin and sometimes other elements.
ABRASIVE —A hard, tough substance that has many sharp edges.	CALIBRATION —The procedure required to adjust an instrument or device to produce a standardized output with a given input.
ALLOWANCE —The difference between maximum size limits of mating parts.	CARBON —An alloying element.
ALLOYING —The procedure of adding elements other than those usually comprising a metal or alloy to change its characteristics and properties.	CASTING —A metal object made by pouring melted metal into a mold.
ALLOYING ELEMENTS —Elements added to nonferrous and ferrous metals and alloys to change their characteristics and properties.	CHAMFER —A bevel surface formed by cutting away the angle of one or two intersecting faces of a piece of material.
ANNEALING —The softening of metal by heating and slow cooling.	CONTOUR —The outline of a figure or body.
ARBOR —The principal axis member, or spindle, of a	DRIFT PIN —A conical-shaped pin gradually tapered from a blunt point to a diameter larger than the hole

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