

Sentence Frames

From our class notes:

1. Some sentence frames are complicated because they have a lot of blanks; it often helps students to know what is expected if you include more information. Read the following sentence frame:

_____ did _____ because she believes _____.

This is fairly confusing, particularly to a novice reader.

(Character Name) did (action in the text) because she believes (phrase about what character believes).

2. Include the punctuation in your frame.
 - Makes the ideas more important than the grammar.
 - Reinforces the grammar rule.
 - Helps students see how the ideas fit together.
3. Use the same size line/blank for all your lines/blanks in a frame.
 - Varying the size implies a length of expected answer
4. Remember that sentence frames give students a place to start; however, this is not where we want students to stop so you may want to add specific places for students to fill in additional thoughts.

_____ did _____ because she believes _____. I think _____ because _____.

You can also show students how to rearrange sentence frames so there is variety in how they structure the sentences.

Because _____ believes _____, she did _____.

These are the ones we developed in class yesterday:

Sentence Frames—Identifying Cause/Effect in Language Arts

- I think _____ and _____ caused _____ because _____.
- The character was motivated to _____ because of _____.
- _____ occurred because of _____.
- Because this character did _____ and _____, _____ happened.
- It was obvious that _____ would happen, because _____, _____, and _____ happened before and were good clues.
- Whenever _____ happened, it always resulted in _____. This happened because _____.

- It may seem that ____ happened because of ____, but I know that the real reason was ____.
- I think ____ happened because of ____, ____ and ____.
- The ____ had to ____ because of ____, ____, and ____.
- The ____ happened because of ____; this is important because all ____ have to ____, ____ and ____.
- Once he/she made the decision to ____, ____ changed because ____.
- I think because the story changed when the character did ____ because ____.

Sentence Frames—Interpreting in Language Arts

- The author means ____ when she said ____.
- The ____ is a symbol for ____ because of ____.
- The novel's theme was ____ because of ____.
- ____ wouldn't have happened if ____ didn't happen first.
- The only reason ____ did ____ was because ____ did ____ first.
- All (character) could do after ____ was ____.
- I can make a connection between ____ and ____ because ____ has this event and ____ has this ____ event.
- ____ could be classified as a ____ because of ____.
- The point of view in ____ is ____ . Examples from the text are ____, ____, and ____.
- When he/she said "____" I think he/she meant ____.
- I think ____ could be a symbol for ____ because ____.
- I understand ____ so when ____ happens in the story, I think it means ____.
- I felt her only real choice was ____ because ____.
- I think he was really looking for ____.
- The lesson he was trying to teach her was ____.
- ____ reminds me of ____ . they are similar because ____.
- The text says ____, and I know that ____, so ____.
- The author chose to ____ as a way to show ____ . I know this because ____.