

# TEXT STRUCTURE ACTIVITIES

# ICE CREAM TEXT STRUCTURES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Color the cone that indicates the text structure of the text. Then underline or highlight the evidence in the text that proves your answer.

It's always surprising to learn that a wildly popular store-bought product is actually really easy to make yourself. Some people may be surprised to learn that ice cream is on this list. There are many methods for making homemade ice cream. The easiest involves getting an inexpensive homemade ice cream maker. This will make the churning part super easy. Once you've got your churner, gather your four simple ingredients for easy vanilla ice cream. You'll need 3/4 of a cup of white sugar, 2 teaspoons of vanilla extract, 1 cup of heavy whipping cream, and 2 1/4 cups of milk. That's all! Now, stir the sugar, cream, and milk into a saucepan over low heat. Keep stirring until the sugar dissolves. Keep heating until a foamy ring forms around the edges of the saucepan. Next, pour the mixture into a measuring cup, or another container with a spout. Then, stir in the vanilla extract. Chill this mix for at least two hours, or overnight if you can. Then, pour this chilled mix into your ice-cream maker. Turn it on, and churn for around 25 minutes. Now, all you've got to do is wait until it softens. Then you can dig in!

1



Description



Compare & Contrast



Cause & Effect



Sequence



Problem & Solution

At the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, a vendor was selling ice cream. This was not surprising, since it was already an incredibly popular food. Also, it was a hot day. Because of the heat and the popularity, the ice cream was selling like crazy and the vendor ran out of dishes. He had buckets of delicious ice cream with no way to serve it.

Next to the ice cream booth was a booth run by a Syrian man named Ernest Hamwi. Hamwi was selling a crispy, waffle-like pastry called a zalabia. Hamwi saw that the ice cream vendor had run out of dishes and had an idea. He rolled a zalabia into a cone and let it cool. Then he proposed to his neighbor that the two vendors team up. They put the ice cream in the zalabia and an ice cream cone was born. Whether this was the first ice cream cone is a matter of debate. One thing's for certain: the customers were delighted and the ice cream serving dilemma was over.

2



Description



Compare & Contrast



Cause & Effect



Sequence



Problem & Solution

Ice cream is a world-famous dessert. Most commonly, it's made with sugar and milk and/or cream. Today, though, many dairy-free alternatives exist. These are made with soymilk, almond milk, coconut milk, or another dairy-free option. Whatever the base ingredients are, ice cream is usually flavored with different kinds of sweeteners. This creates a wide range of varieties. The most basic are vanilla, chocolate, and strawberry. There are also much more elaborate varieties that include different kinds of nuts, candy, and fruit. That's just the beginning. These days, you can go to "specialty" ice cream shops and get off-the-wall flavors like olive oil, bone marrow, and turkey dinner! Any of these flavors – from the traditional to the wacky – are usually served two ways. You can get them in a bowl or a cone. As you can see, there are many combinations of ingredients, flavors, and eating styles. This means there is an ice cream for everyone.

3



Description



Compare & Contrast



Cause & Effect



Sequence



Problem & Solution

# ICE CREAM TEXT STRUCTURES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Color the cone that indicates the text structure of the text. Then underline or highlight the evidence in the text that proves your answer.

Some people can't tell the difference between ice cream and frozen yogurt. Some ice cream fans, however, wouldn't eat frozen yogurt if it was the last food on Earth. On the surface, these two foods seem basically the same. They're both frozen, sugary desserts. They're both served in cups or cones. They're both often covered in the same toppings, including sprinkles, nuts, and syrup. However, there are some differences in the ingredients and the nutritional values. There are actually laws about how much fat needs to be in ice cream. It has to have 10% milkfat. There's no such law for frozen yogurt, so it usually has less fat. Frozen yogurt makers often add more sugar to make up for this lack of fat. This difference in fat content does have a big impact on overall nutritional value. A typical cup of vanilla ice cream has 275 calories and 15 grams of fat. A typical cup of vanilla frozen yogurt, meanwhile, has 221 calories and only 6 grams of fat. Different, but not all that far off, which is why many ice cream lovers simply don't see the point of frozen yogurt.

**4**  Description     Compare & Contrast     Cause & Effect     Sequence     Problem & Solution

In the 1800s, there many laws across the United States referred to as "blue laws." Some still exist today, in fact. These laws made special rules about peoples' behavior on Sundays. On Sundays, people were supposed to be in church. In addition, people weren't supposed to be enjoying anything but the most basic activities, food, and drink. Evanston, Illinois, was one of many towns with blue laws. Around 1890, Evanston passed a law banning the serving of soda water on Sundays.

This really hurt business at the local soda fountains. It meant their main product – ice cream sodas – couldn't be sold on one of the busiest days of the week. However, the law was the law. As a result, the soda fountain workers in Evanston started serving the ice cream soda without the "illegal" soda. That left only two ingredients: ice cream and syrup. They called it a "sundae," after the day it was served. They changed the spelling of "Sunday," so as not to upset anyone. That's how the ice cream sundae was born. Well, it's one of the many theories, anyway.

**5**  Description     Compare & Contrast     Cause & Effect     Sequence     Problem & Solution

Choose one of the texts and prove the text structure in a written explanation on the lines.

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# SUMMER CAMP TEXT STRUCTURES

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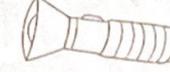
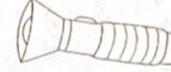
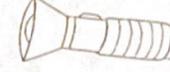
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Color the flashlight that indicates the text structure of the text. Then underline or highlight the evidence in the text that proves your answer.

Summer camps are supervised programs for youth. They take place during the summer break from school. There are two categories. There are day camps, where campers return to their own homes at night. There are overnight camps. There, campers sleep at the camps and eat all their meals at camp. The original concept for summer camps was suggested as a way to introduce children to nature. "Traditional" activities for these summer camps were nature hikes, swimming, canoeing, and other outdoor activities. In modern times, however, camps have introduced a wider range of cultural, athletic, or academic offerings. Some even have a very narrow focus around, for example, a specific instrument, sport, language, or religion. Another development is that camps are no longer only held in rural areas. The overall evolution of summer camps has only increased their popularity. They're popular all over the world. They provide enriching summer activities for youth of all backgrounds. This includes older youth who serve as camp counselors after earning the responsibility of mentoring the younger campers.

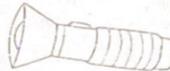
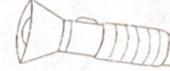
**1**  Description     Compare & Contrast     Cause & Effect     Sequence     Problem & Solution

The first summer camp in the United States was opened in Connecticut in 1861. That's the same year the American Civil War began. It was called the Gunnery. It offered many of the outdoor activities we think of today as "traditional" activities. The first YMCA camp opened in 1885. Soon more and more YMCA camps sprang up throughout the country. Camps grew in popularity through the early 20th century, many focused around specific religions or political ideologies. Then, during World War II, many camps turned their attention to helping the war effort. Some focused on growing crops or collecting supplies to help the cause. Then, some important developments took place after the war. In 1948, the American Camping Association (ACA) adopted health and safety standards that all camps had to follow. In 1950, the ACA established important anti-discrimination resolutions. These developments made camps better, safer, and more inclusive. They also contributed to an explosion in the popularity of American summer camps in the 1950s and 1960s.

**2**  Description     Compare & Contrast     Cause & Effect     Sequence     Problem & Solution

Going to an overnight camp – even those as short as a couple of weeks – can be a great challenge for children. It pulls them away from the basic systems of life as they know it. It separates them from the influence of parents and siblings and friends. It removes the comforts of home. It removes the familiar neighborhood and their daily routine.

However, these drastic changes come with a profound benefit. Separating from their safe, familiar, comforting routines forces children to grow. It forces them to start developing their own personalities, beliefs, and survival skills independent of what they've been handed. Overnight camp can lead to an incredible leap forward that can't simply happen when a child is still living among the influences and routines of their usual environment.

**3**  Description     Compare & Contrast     Cause & Effect     Sequence     Problem & Solution

# SUMMER CAMP TEXT STRUCTURES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Color the flashlight that indicates the text structure of the text. Then underline or highlight the evidence in the text that proves your answer.

Going away to summer camp for the first time can be daunting. Everything is new. It's a new setting with new activities and new challenges, surrounded by new people. That's combined with what is taken away. Specifically, that's the comforts of home – the people, the places, and the things that have become central to your identity. It's no surprise that homesickness is one of the greatest challenges faced by first-time summer campers.

There's a simple and easy way to combat homesickness. Prepare a series of homesickness care packages, one for every week you'll be away from home. You know yourself better than anyone. You're the best judge of what you'll really miss – what really means home to you. Is it a certain snack food? Include it. Is it your parents or sibling or pet? Put a snapshot in every package. Have your parents mail one package each week. Whatever the contents, the purpose is that you have a dose of home to look forward to at regular intervals. That way you can fight off homesickness and focus on why you're at summer camp: to make new friends and have awesome experiences.

4



Description



Compare & Contrast



Cause & Effect



Sequence



Problem & Solution

Choosing between a summer overnight camp or day camp can be difficult. Both provide a range of benefits by introducing campers to new people and experiences. You can find both day and overnight camps that are tailored to the interests of the camper – from sports to music to drama and more. There are some differences to consider, as well. First, of course, is price. For obvious reasons, overnight camps cost a lot more than day camps. Next is the emotional impact on the campers involved. Overnight camps can cause homesickness. They can also be very strenuous, since they keep campers busy most of the day. It's important to determine if a child is ready for this or not. However, the benefits of an overnight camp can be greater, too. The camper will spend more time concentrating on the music, sport, or other activity they're there for. In addition, the extended time away from home can lead to greater personal growth. It offers a chance for the child to begin shaping a personal identity away from their usual influences. As you can see, there are obvious benefits and drawbacks to both kinds of camps.

5



Description



Compare & Contrast



Cause & Effect



Sequence



Problem & Solution

Choose one of the texts and prove the text structure in a written explanation on the lines.

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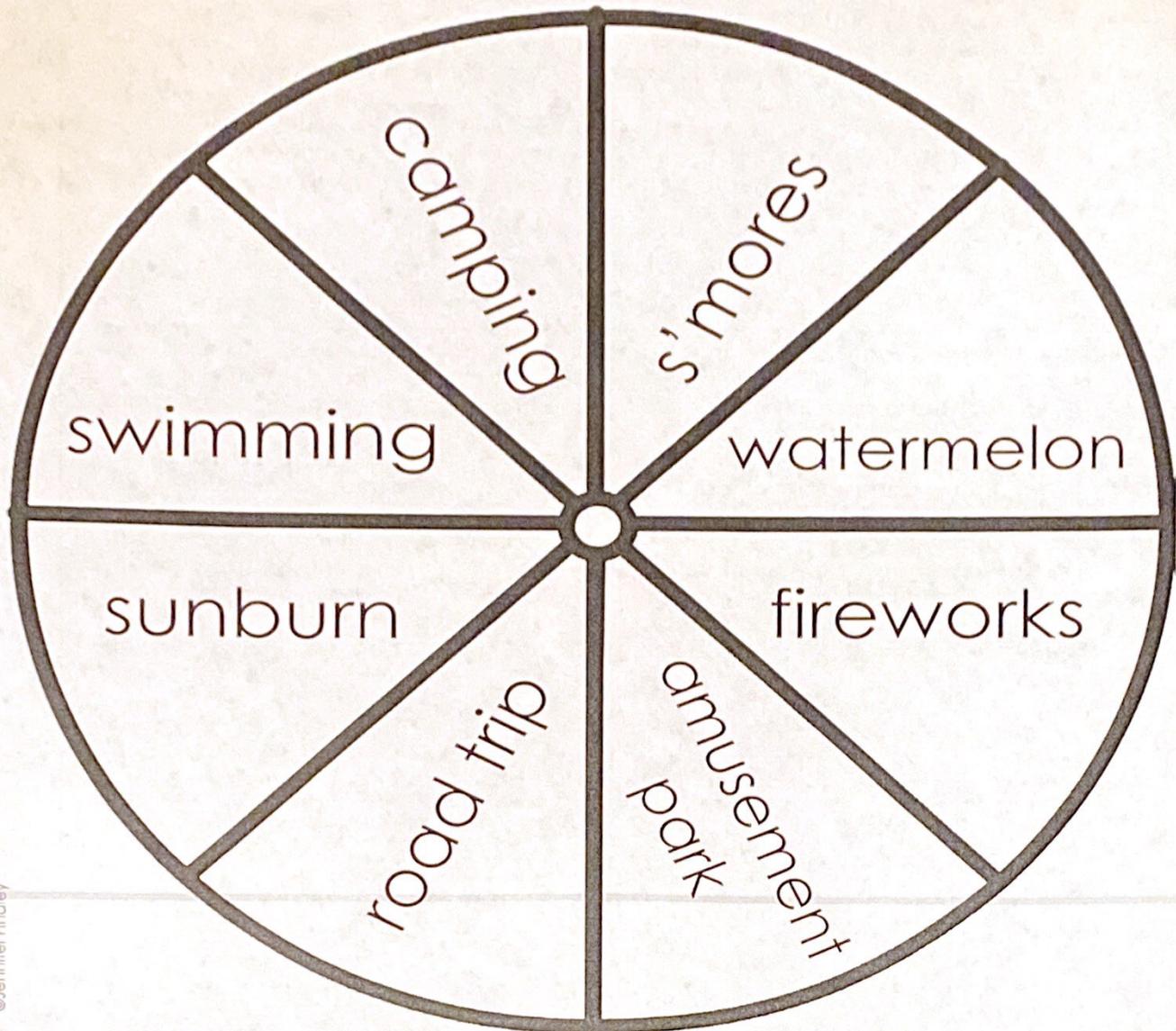
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# SPIN A TEXT STRUCTURE

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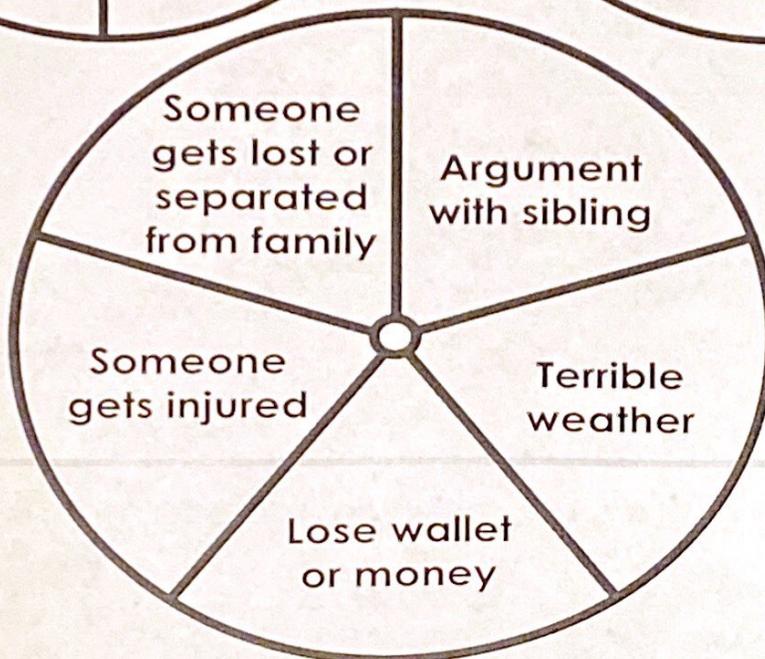
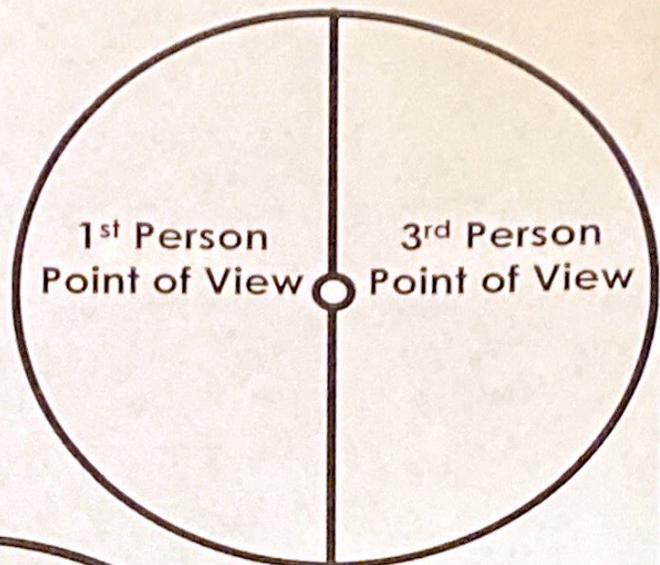
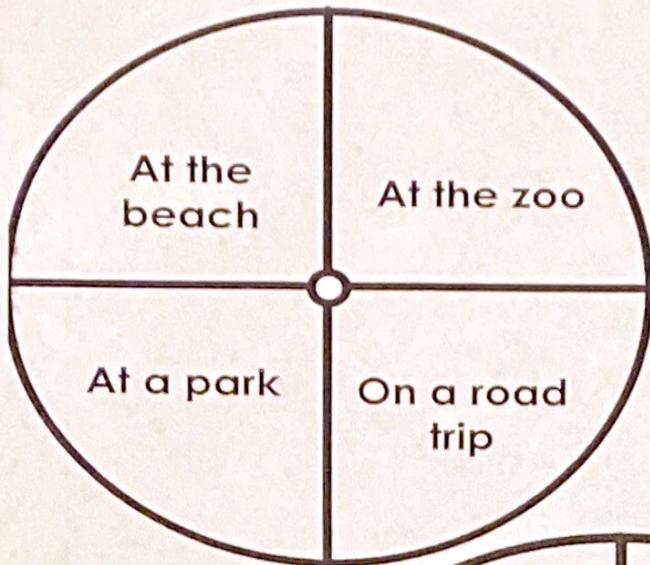
Directions: Spin a summer topic. Write an informational paragraph about that topic using a specific text structure (description, compare and contrast, problem and solution, cause and effect, or sequence/chronological order).





# SPIN A STORY

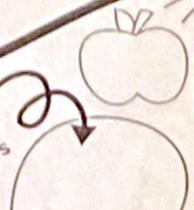
Use a paper clip and pencil to spin a setting, problem, and point of view. Write a story with the elements you spun.







Hi!  
my name is



My Teacher:

Sweetest  
memory

LOL

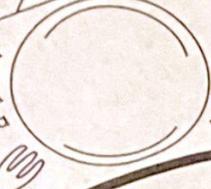
Funny Memory

D.R.E.A.M.

My dreams  
FOR next  
YEAR

th

Most  
YUMMY  
Cafeteria  
Meal



Favorite RECESS Activity



4 ways I  
SHINED  
this year

An area I  
showed the  
most  
EFFORT

A book I  
LOVED  
this year

3  
things planned  
for this  
SUMMER

BFF

Favorite activity  
to do with friends

1. 2. 3.

2.

1.

3.

4.

A TO Z  
About ME this YEAR

A

B

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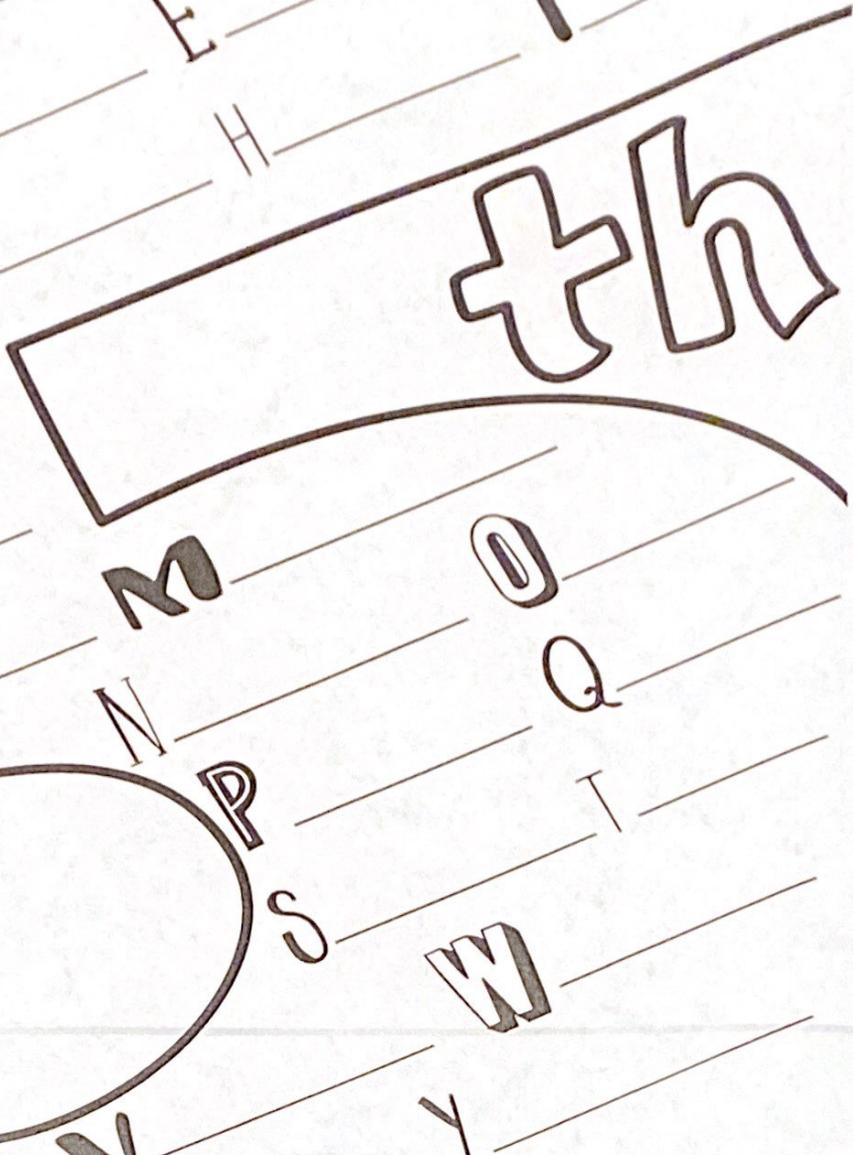
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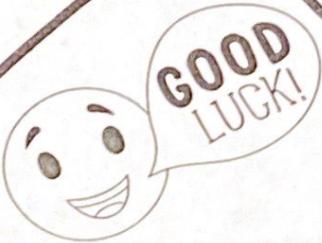
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Dear NEW 5TH GRADER,

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An area I showed  
the most  
**EFFORT**

**Writing Prompt:** Write about the accomplishments you  
had this year that took the most effort.

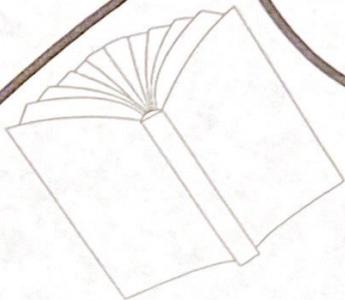
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A book I  
**LOVED**  
this year

**Writing Prompt:** Describe a character from a favorite book and write how you and the character are similar and different.

th



# My Teacher

**Writing Prompt:** Write a letter to your teacher telling him or her what your favorite activity was for this year.

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