Informational Text

English I Honors

Controlling Idea

The main point or underlying direction of a piece of writing. A controlling idea makes the reader ask a question that is answered by reading more or helps the reader understand the author's purpose for writing the piece.

Author's Purpose

The reason or intent for writing. The umbrella categories are to inform, persuade, or entertain.

Summary

To reduce larger sections of text to their essential and main ideas.

Critique

Holds and/or expresses opinions, takes a position

Substantiated Opinion

Verified, proven, and confirmed.

Unsubstantiated Opinion

Has not been verified, proven, or confirmed.

Inference

A conclusion reached on the basis of evidence and reasoning.

Text Features: Draw your attention to important information

- Photograph
- Caption
- Label
- Graph
- Table
- Title
- Heading
- Subheadings
- Bold
- Italics
- Underlined
- Etc.

Text Structures

Help you find the controlling idea and supporting details.

- Problem/Solution
- Compare/Contrast
- Description
- Timeline
- Sequence
- Cause/Effect

Formality and Tone

What is the author's attitude towards their subject and are they using formal or informal language to present their ideas.

Types of Informational Text

- Textbooks
- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Brochures
- Encyclopedias
- Editorials
- Diaries/Journals