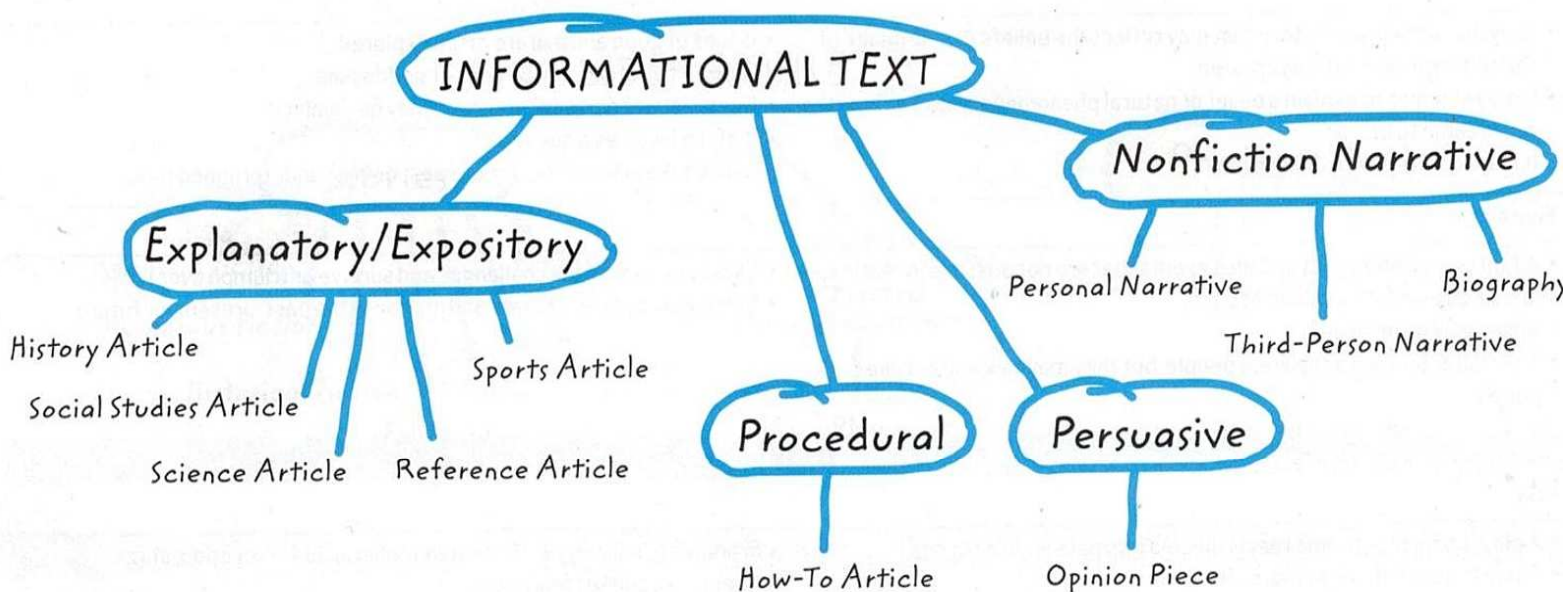


Multiple Genres: Informational Text

Classrooms that are linked to high achievement use a multi-source, multi-level, multi-cultural, multi-genre curriculum. *National Geographic Ladders* Common Core Readers include many genres of both literature and informational text. The graphic below shows the genres for informational text, followed by a list of elements for each genre.



Explanatory/Expository

History Article

- A history article tells about historic events and may also tell how events impacted subsequent time periods.
- Information is based on real people and events.
- Factual information and ideas may be presented using a compare/contrast structure.
- Events are often organized and presented in the order in which they happened (chronological order).
- The text is often organized using headings and contains specialized vocabulary.
- Facts and information may be conveyed through photos, captions, diagrams, illustrations, time lines, or other graphics.

Social Studies Article

- A social studies article covers topics related to culture, government, economics, history, or geography.
- It explores the impact a topic has on society.
- Factual information and ideas may be presented using a compare/contrast structure.
- Details, examples, reasons, and evidence are used to convey information.
- The text is often organized using headings and contains specialized vocabulary.
- Facts and information may be conveyed through photos, captions, diagrams, illustrations, or other graphics.

Science Article

- A science article uses facts, details, examples, and evidence to convey information about a science topic.
- Ideas and concepts may be explained by pointing out problem/solution relationships.
- Ideas and concepts may be explained by pointing out cause/effect relationships.
- The text is often organized using headings and has specialized vocabulary.
- Facts and information may be conveyed through photos, captions, diagrams, illustrations, or other graphics.

Reference Article

- The content of a reference article does not have to be read sequentially. Readers can dip in and out of a reference article as needed over time.
- Its purpose is to provide concise, easy-to-scan information, which may include different types of descriptive and/or measurable data.
- Subject-area vocabulary is defined and explained. Some words may be in bold or italics to emphasize their importance.
- The text is often organized using headings.
- Facts and information may be conveyed through photos, captions, diagrams, illustrations, or other graphics.

Sports Article

- A sports article focuses on an aspect of sports, such as a sports figure, a competition, or a particular team or sport.
- The topic could be current or historic.
- Factual information may be presented using a compare/contrast structure.
- Information is often conveyed using statistics.
- The text is often organized using headings and contains specialized vocabulary.
- Facts and information may be conveyed through photos, captions, diagrams, illustrations, or other graphics.

Procedural

How-To Article

- Another name for a how-to article is “procedural text.”
- The text tells how to do or make something.
- The text begins with a goal stating what the reader will make or do.
- The procedure is explained in a series of steps. The steps are in order, often by number.
- Both text and graphic features demonstrate and explain.

Persuasive

Opinion Piece

- In an opinion piece, a writer presents facts about a topic in an organized way and states an opinion.
- The writer cares about the topic and attempts to persuade the reader to accept or embrace his or her opinion.
- Reasons, evidence, or personal experiences support the opinion.
- The writer generally concludes by emphasizing the opinion.
- The piece may include both pro and con sides of an opinion.

Nonfiction Narrative

Personal Narrative

- In a personal narrative, the writer speaks directly to the reader using the first-person point of view to tell about his or her own experiences. Pronouns such as *I*, *we*, and *our* are used.
- Events are described, often in chronological order. The description may include dates, time, places, and people involved.
- The most common form of personal narrative is memoir.
- Firsthand and secondhand accounts are forms of personal narrative. In a firsthand account, the writer tells about his or her own experience. In a secondhand account, the writer tells about events he or she knows about or has heard or learned about but did not personally experience.
- Graphics, such as photos with captions, are often included.

Third-Person Narrative

- A third-person narrative tells about real people, places, objects, or events.
- The writer uses a third-person point of view, which includes pronouns such as *he*, *she*, and *they*.
- The writer does research in order to write credibly about a subject.
- Events may be described in chronological order. The description may include dates, time, places, and people involved.
- The writer brings a subject to life by using narrative elements to tell a story. These narrative elements, such as interesting anecdotes and vivid descriptions of people and places, distinguish a third-person narrative from journalistic reporting.
- Graphics, such as photos with captions, are often included.

Biography

- A biography tells about a person’s life and his or her achievements. The person may or may not be alive.
- It explores the impact of the person’s achievements on a group or society.
- Details, examples, reasons, and evidence are used to convey information about the person and his or her achievements.
- Facts and information may be conveyed through photos, captions, diagrams, illustrations, or other graphics.
- Events are often organized and presented in the order in which they happened (chronological order).