

Identify the Patterns of Organization

Choose from the following patterns and identify them in the paragraphs below: claim with reasons, cause and effect, applied criteria, problem-solution, chronology or narrative, deduction, induction, comparison-contrast.

Paragraph 1

The exotic creatures in “Avatar,” which include an astonishment of undulating, flying, twitching and galloping organisms, don’t just crawl through the underbrush; they thunder and shriek, yip and hiss, pointy teeth gleaming. The most important of these are the Na’vi, and while their movements can bring to mind old-fashioned stop-motion animation, their faces are a triumph of tech innovation, with tremors and twitches that make them immediately appealing and empathetic. By the time Neytiri ushers Jake into her world of wonders — a lush dreamscape filled with kaleidoscopic and bioluminescent flora and fauna, with pink jellyfishlike creatures that hang in the air and pleated orange flowers that snap shut like parasols — you are deep in the Na’vi-land. It’s a world that looks as if it had been created by someone who’s watched a lot of Jacques Cousteau television or, like Mr. Cameron, done a lot of diving. It’s also familiar because, like John Smith in “The New World,” Terrence Malick’s retelling of the Pocahontas story, Jake has discovered Eden. An Eden in three dimensions, that is. In keeping with his maximalist tendencies, Mr. Cameron has shot “Avatar” in 3-D (because many theaters are not equipped to show 3-D, the movie will also be shown in the usual 2), an experiment that serves his material beautifully. This isn’t the 3-D of the 1950s or even contemporary films, those flicks that try to give you a virtual poke in the eye with flying spears. Rather Mr. Cameron uses 3-D to amplify the immersive experience of spectacle cinema. Instead of bringing you into the movie with the customary tricks, with a widescreen or even Imax image filled with sweeping landscapes and big action, he uses 3-D seemingly to close the space between the audience and the screen. He brings the movie to you.

Paragraph 2

I worry about the private automobile. It is a dirty, noisy, wasteful, and lonely means of travel. It pollutes the air, ruins the safety and sociability of the street, and exercises upon the individual a discipline which takes away far more freedom than it gives him. It causes an enormous amount of land to be unnecessarily abstracted from nature and from plant life and to become devoid of any natural function. It explodes cities, grievously impairs the whole institution of neighborliness, fragmentizes and destroys communities. It has already spelled the end of our cities as real cultural and social communities, and has made impossible the construction of any others in their place. Together with the airplane, it has crowded out other, more civilized and more convenient means of transport, leaving older people, infirm people, poor people and children in a worse situation than they were a hundred years ago.

Paragraph 3

Ben Gurion was the architect of a new state that changed the destiny of the Jewish people, and changed the Middle East. He was born in 1886 in a small Polish town. In 1906 he went to Turkish Palestine and joined the early Zionist-socialist groups. In 1915 the Turkish authority expelled him. He then went to New York, learned English by himself, and words for the Zionist movement. He returned to Palestine – now under British government – and worked to establish a Jewish state in Israel. In 1948 Ben Gurion declared Israel’s independence. The Old Man – as he was called – died a few weeks after the October War of 1973. He was a man who turned a dream into reality. He said: “In order to be a realist, you must believe in miracles.”

Paragraph 4

Everyone wants to use computers these days, because of the many things we can do with them. Firstly, we can type all kinds of documents much better than we did before, and make changes to our documents quickly and easily. We can add pictures and charts, and print our documents easily and well, in color if we wish. With our computer, we can also send letters in a few seconds to people all over the world, and get answers, sometimes in one minute or two. Furthermore, we can find information that we need for learning, for work, or for fun. We can even watch movies, listen to music, or shop on the computer.

Paragraph 5

Although Sergeant Smith and Sergeant Jones are both effective leaders, they typify two different concepts of leadership—the persuasive and authoritarian. Smith is young and eager, while Jones is an old veteran with many campaigns to his credit. Recently, during an inspection on the parade field, Smith appeared with his shoes, and his uniform pressed to perfection. In a word, he was immaculate. Jones was at the same inspection, and although he was no shining example, neither was he sloppy. He relied on the many rows of ribbons and decorations adorning his chest to make an impression for him. Both of these men are constantly dealing with the problems of leadership, but while Smith spends long hours orienting and persuading his men, Jones is constantly barking orders and admonishing those who do not respond. By soliciting suggestions from his troops about how to overcome obstacles, Sergeant Smith usually arrives at a workable solution. Sergeant Jones, on the other hand, relies on his many years of experience to guide him in overcoming these problems. The apparent difference between these two is the way that they deal with their men on a daily basis. Smith places a great deal of importance on respecting every Soldier as a man and as an individual. On the contrary, Jones, although he recognizes that each man has different physical features, desires, and interests, treats each man exactly the same as the next. He is the boss, and soldiers were born to obey his commands.

Paragraph 6

Oceans have ingredients which can benefit human health. Several important medical treatments are based on chemicals discovered in marine animals. On the other hand, increasingly common phenomena such as harmful algal blooms have demonstrated their negative impact on human health. The health of marine ecosystems is affected by human activities such as pollution, global warming, and over fishing. But at the same time, human health depends on thriving ocean ecosystems. We need a better understanding of the many ways marine organisms affect human health, both positively by providing drugs and bio-products, and negatively by causing human ailments.

Paragraph 7

Beneficial and harmful links exist between human health and ocean health. While several important medical treatments are based on chemicals discovered in marine animals, increasingly common phenomena such as harmful algal blooms have demonstrated their negative impact on human health. The health of marine ecosystems is affected by human activities such as pollution, global warming, and over fishing. But human health in turn depends on thriving ocean ecosystems.

Paragraph 8

Drinking has been an aspect of college life since the first Western universities in the 14th century. My friends and I drank in college in the 1960s--sometimes a lot but not so much that we had to be hospitalized. Veteran college administrators cite a sea change in campus culture that began, not without coincidence, in the 1990s. It was marked by a shift from beer to hard liquor, consumed not in large social settings, since that is now illegal, but furtively and dangerously in students' residences. In my reporting at colleges around the country, I did not meet any presidents or deans who felt that the 21-year age minimum helps their efforts to curb the abuse of alcohol on their campuses. Quite the opposite. They thought the law impeded their efforts since it takes away the ability to monitor and supervise drinking activity. What would happen if the drinking age was rolled back to 18 or 19? Initially, there would be a surge in binge drinking as young adults savored their newfound freedom. But over time, I predict, U.S. college students would settle into the saner approach to alcohol I saw on the one campus I visited where the legal drinking age is 18: Montreal's McGill University, which enrolls about 2,000 American undergraduates a year. Many, when they first arrive, go overboard, exploiting their ability to drink legally. But by midterms, when McGill's demanding academic standards must be met, the vast majority have put drinking into its practical place among their priorities.