

Problem/Solution Frame

What is a Problem/Solution Frame and why is it important?

Frames (Jones, 1986) are graphic outlines that help students understand different text patterns. Students can use them to understand, organize, and think about information in a particular way (e.g., comparing and contrasting information versus listing information). A Problem/Solution Frame helps students point out one or more problems in a passage or story and identify the solution.

How can I use a Problem-Solution Frame with my students?

After students have read a passage that contains a problem with a solution, encourage them to complete the Problem/Solution Frame. Guide students through the passage or story by asking questions such as: “What is the problem in this passage?” “What are some examples of the problem?” “What was done to solve the problem?”

Following is an example of a Problem/Solution Frame.

Problem: Many animals are in danger of extinction.

Example 1: The giant panda is endangered.

Example 2: Only a small number of red fox are left.

Example 3: The number of elephants is declining.

Example 4: Each day, an entire species becomes extinct.

Example 1: Deforestation or cutting down trees; loss of habitat

Example 2: Poaching—killing animals for their fur, tusks, and fins

Example 3: Pollution—destroying the environment with oil, litter, etc.

Example 1: Stop cutting down trees.

Example 2: Don't litter. Recycle.

Example 3: Arrest poachers and don't buy fur.

Example 4: Support wildlife organizations and write to government representatives about concerns.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Problem/Solution Frame

Problem: _____

Example 1: _____

Example 2: _____

Example 3: _____

Example 4: _____

Causes of the Problem:

Example 1: _____

Example 2: _____

Example 3: _____

Solutions:

Example 1: _____

Example 2: _____

Example 3: _____

Example 4: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Problem/Solution Frame

Problem: _____

Causes of the Problem:

Solutions:

Name: _____ Date: _____

Problem/Solution Frame and Summary

Problem: _____

Causes of the Problem:

Solutions:

Summary: