

Nonfiction Text Features

Grade 3 • ELA • Nonfiction text features: headings, captions, diagrams, glossary • Standards: RI.3.5

Read each example of a text feature. Write what type of feature it is and explain what information it gives you.

1. At the top of a page about frogs, you see the word 'Frogs' in large letters. What text feature is this and what does it tell you?
2. Under a picture of a butterfly, you read 'A monarch butterfly drinks nectar from a flower.' What text feature is this and what does it tell you?
3. In a book about weather, you see 'Chapter 2: Rain' at the top of a page. What text feature is this and what does it tell you?
4. At the back of a book about plants, you find a list of words like 'roots' and 'stem' with their meanings. What text feature is this and what does it tell you?
5. A drawing shows the parts of a volcano with arrows pointing to 'crater,' 'lava,' and 'magma chamber.' What text feature is this and what does it tell you?
6. In a book about ocean animals, you see 'Types of Sharks' in dark letters above a section. Below that, smaller words say 'Great White Sharks.' What are these two text features?
7. Under a photo of children planting seeds, you read 'Third graders plant a garden at Riverside School in May 2023.' What text feature is this and what extra information does it give you?
8. A drawing of a flower shows arrows pointing to different parts with labels: 'petal,' 'stem,' 'leaf,' and 'roots.' What text feature is this and why is it helpful?
9. At the back of a book about desert animals, you find 'cactus - a plant with thick stems that stores water' and 'burrow - a hole or tunnel dug by an animal.' What text feature is this and how does it help readers?

10. In a science book, a diagram shows the water cycle with arrows connecting 'evaporation,' 'condensation,' 'precipitation,' and 'collection.' The caption below says 'Water moves through the environment in a repeating pattern.' How do these two text features work together?

Answer Key — Nonfiction Text Features

For the teacher / parent. Do not distribute with the worksheet.

1. This is a heading. It tells you the page is about frogs.
2. This is a caption. It tells you what is happening in the picture.
3. This is a heading. It tells you this chapter is about rain.
4. This is a glossary. It tells you the meanings of important words from the book.
5. This is a diagram. It shows the parts of a volcano and labels them.
6. The first is a heading and the second is a subheading (or smaller heading).
7. This is a caption. It tells you who is in the photo, what they are doing, where they are, and when it happened.
8. This is a diagram. It is helpful because it shows you where each part of the flower is located.
9. This is a glossary. It helps readers understand important words they might not know.
10. The diagram shows the steps and how they connect, while the caption explains the main idea that water keeps moving in a cycle.