Name:_____

Text Structure-Kites

The Anatomy of a Kite

A kite is a flying object that stays in the air using a frame, a sail, and a line. The frame is the "skeleton" made of light sticks that give the kite its shape. Stretched over the frame is the sail, which is usually made of bright paper, plastic, or nylon. The bridle is a string that connects the kite to the long flying line held by the person on the ground. Many kites also have a tail, which isn't just for decoration; it helps the kite stay balanced in the wind.

1. What is the text structure of this passage?

A) cause and effect B) description C) problem and solution D) compare and contrast

2. What is the purpose of the tail? _____

_____

_____

Getting Your Kite in the Air

Launching a kite takes a few careful steps to ensure it catches the wind. First, check the area to make sure there are no power lines or trees nearby. Next, stand with your back to the wind and hold your kite up by the bridle. Then, slowly let out some of the flying line as you feel the wind tugging on the sail. After that, run forward a short distance to help the kite lift higher into the sky. Finally, once the kite is steady, you can let out more string to watch it soar toward the clouds.

1. What is the text structure of this passage?

A) cause and effect B) sequence C) problem and solution D) compare and contrast

2. Why is it important to run forward a short distance? _____

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Name:_____

Text Structure-Kites

Why Kites Fly

Kites stay in the sky because of a force called lift. As wind moves across the face of the kite, it creates pressure. Because the kite is held at an angle by the string, the air moves faster over the top than the bottom. This difference in air pressure causes the kite to be pushed upward. However, if the wind suddenly stops blowing, the kite will lose its lift and tumble toward the ground. Gravity is always pulling the kite down, so it needs a constant breeze to stay up.

1. What is the text structure of this passage?

A) cause and effect B) description C) problem and solution D) compare and contrast

2. What happens if the wind stops blowing?_____

_____

The Tangled Tail

A common problem for kite fliers is "kite turbulence," which happens when the kite spins in circles or dives toward the ground. This usually occurs because the kite is too light for the wind or is unbalanced. To solve this, fliers often add a tail to the bottom of the kite. The tail adds "drag," which acts like an anchor to keep the kite pointing the right way. If a kite is still diving, another solution is to move the bridle string slightly to change the angle of the kite. These simple fixes help keep the kite steady in the sky.

1. What is the text structure of this passage?

A) cause and effect B) description C) problem and solution D) compare and contrast

How does adding a tail help solve the problem of an unbalanced kite?_____

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Name:_____

Text Structure-Kites

Stunt Kites vs. Diamond Kites

There are many types of kites, but the diamond kite and the stunt kite are two of the most popular. A diamond kite is the classic shape most people know; it has one string and is very easy for beginners to fly. In contrast, a stunt kite usually has two strings, which allows the flier to perform loops and tricks. While they look different, both types of kites require wind to fly and use a frame to hold their shape. Diamond kites are great for a relaxing day at the park, but stunt kites are better for people who want a challenge.

1. What is the text structure of this passage?

A) cause and effect B) description C) problem and solution D) compare and contrast

2. What is one way diamond kites and stunt kites are alike?_____

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