

Grade 7 Playlist: Analyzing the Interaction Between People, Events, and Ideas

Aligns with CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.7.3:

- Analyze the interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in a text (e.g., how ideas influence individuals or events, or how individuals influence ideas or events).

Welcome

In a literary text, the people, events, and ideas all influence one another. The same is true for an informational text. All the elements work together to support and clarify the central idea of the text. Readers can improve their understanding of what they read by analyzing the different relationships and interactions between people, events, and ideas. This allows readers to form important conclusions about a text, like how a specific event affects an individual or how one person's idea can influence others.

Objectives

In this playlist, students will learn how to:

- recognize how interactions between people, events, and ideas influence one another in a text.
- identify transition words and phrases that signal interactions in a text.

Review

Key Terms

- An **interaction** is the action or influence of things on one another.
- A **transition** is a word or phrase that connects ideas in a sentence or paragraph.

Exploring the Standard

What was Abraham Lincoln's influence on the Civil War? How does deforestation lead to more endangered species? These are the kinds of questions that can be answered by examining the interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in a text. Informational texts often contain dense or difficult concepts that can be tough to understand. Being able to identify relationships in a text makes complex information easier to digest. Authors can show these relationships in multiple ways. They might describe how one event causes another, or they might explain how a person influenced the way a series of events happened. By analyzing these interactions, readers will gain a better understanding of how ideas and events play a role in shaping people's thoughts and actions.

Watch!

Watch this video to learn more about textual interactions:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RqjiLyh139s>



A Closer Look: Determining How People, Events, and Ideas in a Text Are Related

Every text contains relationships and interactions. The relationships show how multiple people, events, or ideas are alike or different and how they work together. Readers can look for these connections because they provide insight into the author's message.

To support their message, authors occasionally provide clues about how information is connected. Other times, readers must figure out the relationships between people, events, and ideas on their own. This means that readers must make logical interpretations of evidence to establish connections between elements in the text.

The first step when looking for connections is to determine what information matters most in the text. This information often includes notable actions or events, key explanations, or detailed descriptions. Once these are established, readers can analyze the relationships between these elements to discover how each one is related to those around it.

When making connections in a text, look for the following ways in which pieces of information are commonly related:

- Things are similar to or different from one another.
- One event or action causes or affects another.
- A solution is used to solve a stated problem.
- A process is composed of multiple steps that happen in a specific order.

Practice!

Practice analyzing how events and ideas influence individuals in an informational text:

- <https://www.opened.com/assessment/interactions-between-individuals-events-and-ideas/1070396>

A Closer Look: Finding Transition Words and Phrases

Another way to find connections is to look for transition words and phrases. Transitions connect ideas in a text by linking together key sentences or paragraphs. Whether the author intends it or not, transition words clue the reader to different kinds of connections between individuals, events, and ideas.

Read the following chart, which shows connections that can be signaled by common transition words and phrases.

Connections	Transition Words
How people, events, or ideas are similar or in agreement	like, similarly, as/same as, in addition, coupled with, by the same token, for example, most, mostly, comparable, equally, identically, by comparison, comparatively, of course, likewise, correspondingly, furthermore
How people, events, or ideas are different or contradictory	in contrast, on the contrary, unlike, different from, while, in spite of, albeit, after all, in reality, but, however, opposite, although, on the other hand, otherwise, conversely, nonetheless, despite, besides, even though, rather, instead

