

## **Pirates and Text Structure**

## Read the paragraphs below and identify the text structure:

## Compare and Contrast | Problem-Solution | Chronological | Cause-Effect

1. When Thomas Jefferson was elected president, one of his goals was to dispatch of the dreaded Barbary Pirates in the Mediterranean Sea. The pirates charged foreign nations tolls for safe passage or trade. The Barbary Pirates would capture, enslave, and then sell sailors from nations that failed to pay the toll. The toll was very expensive and became more expensive when Jefferson entered office. In 1801, Jefferson authorized American naval ships to sail to the Mediterranean Sea to wage war against the pirates. American warships bombarded the ports in North Africa that served as the staging grounds for the pirates. The American navy defeated the Barbary Pirates in the First Barbary War, and then again in the Second Barbary War, thus, ridding the world forever of the pirates and opening up the Mediterranean Sea to trade.

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2. While both the Barbary Pirates and Pirates of the Caribbean pillaged and plundered during the same time in history, there was relatively little else they had in common. The Barbary Pirates operated in North Africa and the Pirates of the Caribbean operated in the Caribbean Sea and off the coasts of North and South America. While the Barbary Pirates worked in teams to capture slaves for eventual sale, the Pirates of the Caribbean were primarily interested in plundering Spanish galleons heading back to Europe. The Barbary Pirates worked as the naval unit of the Ottoman Empire, while pirates in the Caribbean worked on their own, or, worked as privateers for the kings and queens of European nations.

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3. One of the reasons the Anglo-Spanish War of 1585 occurred was because of continued English pirating and plundering of Spanish port cities and treasure galleons. Although it was never formally declared, the war lasted nineteen long years and resulted in the defeat of both the Spanish and English armadas. When the war became hopelessly deadlocked, both sides agreed to the Treaty of London. As a result of the treaty, the English agreed to stop targeting Spanish possessions in pirating raids and both sides agreed to open up their ports to ships of the other.

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4. Edward Teach, otherwise known as Blackbeard, began his pirating career in 1713 – after the Spanish War of Succession. Within a few years, "Blackbeard" earned a reputation as a notorious pirate by plundering settlements in the Caribbean Sea and North America. In 1718, he staged an infamous blockade of Charleston, South Carolina - plundering ships, stealing riches, and ransoming hostages. In November of 1718, however, Blackbeard met his end in a naval battle off of the coast of Virginia - where the governor had placed a generous bounty on his head.

## Answers:

- 1. Problem-Solution
- 2. Compare-Contrast
- 3. Cause-Effect
- 4. Chronological