

Tell your reader about a problem and the steps taken to solve it.



I'll tell the reader about the steps that led to a solution.

All in Favor

The students in Ms. Ferrero's class were thrilled when Principal Johnson announced that they had won a class party for perfect attendance. The class would have to decide what type of party to have. Everyone shouted out ideas, but no one could agree. Finally, Luk Sun suggested a class vote...

1. Build Writing Skills

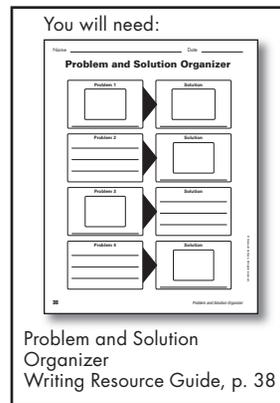
Teach Organizational Pattern:
Problem and Solution

A. Restate Problem and Solution

Tell students that describing a problem and its solution can be an effective way of organizing some writing. In fiction writing, the writer includes details about the people who face the problem (characters) and where the action takes place (setting). Sometimes, there can be more than one problem, or more than one solution to a given problem. *Today we are going to focus on writing about a problem and its solution.*

B. Focus on the Visual

What is the problem the characters face in this piece? (The class cannot decide on a kind of party.) How is this problem solved? (One student suggests a vote to decide.)



2. Write and Analyze

Organizational Pattern: Problem and Solution

A. Write Texts

Students should work on creating or revising a brief piece about a problem and how it was solved.

Below Level	On Level	Above Level
Review students' Problem and Solution Organizers together. Have students identify a problem they wish to write about. Help students develop the problem. Discuss possible ways of solving the problem.	Review students' drafts for a clear problem and solution. Have students add details to their problem and solution, such as how the problem was discovered and how a solution was decided upon.	Review students' drafts for a clear problem and solution. Encourage students to add descriptive language to their details. Challenge students to write about alternatives to the solutions chosen in the writing.

- ### B. Support Writing
- When students are finished, ask:
- Why is it important to show the steps leading from a problem to a solution?
 - What problem did your characters face? What was the solution?

3. Support Writing Independence

- ### A. Write on My Own
- In a conference, ask:
- How did you describe your problem for the reader?
 - Could the problem in your writing have two solutions? What is another solution?
- ### B. Monitor Learning
- Use the rubric below to assess students' writing for problem and solution.
- ### C. Next Step
- Continue providing small group support for problem and solution for students who score 1 or 2.

Organizational Pattern: Problem and Solution

1. Little Evidence	Student's writing contains no clear problems or solutions and may focus on random details. Writing may lack logical organization.
2. Some Evidence	Student's writing contains a vague or incomplete problem and solution. Writing might lack order or clarity.
3. Clear Evidence	Student's writing contains at least one clear problem and solution. Writing is focused, moves clearly from idea to idea, and works together as a whole.