Name _____

Hidden Structure Clues

Authors leave **clues** in their writing that show how the text is structured. These clues are often **signal words** or phrases. For example:

- **Cause & Effect** → because, since, as a result
- **Chronological/Sequence** → first, next, after, finally
- **Problem & Solution** → problem, solution, challenge, answer
- **Compare & Contrast** → however, but, both, alike
- **Description** → for example, such as, includes, in addition

Directions: Read each passage. Circle or underline the **signal words/phrases** that hint at the structure. Then write the text structure on the line.

1. The playground was closed because heavy rain flooded the area. As a result, the children had to play indoors during recess.

Structure:

2. The hummingbird is tiny, with bright feathers that shimmer in the sunlight. For example, the ruby-throated hummingbird has a shiny red throat.

Structure:

3. First, measure one cup of flour. Next, stir in sugar and eggs. Then, pour the mixture into a pan. Finally, bake the cake for 30 minutes.

Structure:

4. Cats are independent animals, while dogs often crave human attention. However, both can be loving companions.

Structure:

5. The school cafeteria had a problem: lines were too long. One solution was to add more serving stations, and another was to stagger lunch times.

Structure: