THINKING ON MY OWN

Video: Ready For Take Off

Sequence Nonfiction Text Structure (timeline)

Megan has loved detective work since she was young. As children, Megan, her brother Jason, and their younger cousins would use their grandmother's jewelry to play detective and solve crimes. They even used transparent tape to look at fingerprints. Now that Megan is older, she enjoys watching movies and reading books with detectives as the main character. Recently she began to search the Internet and read books on how detectives solve crimes. Knowing that fingerprinting was one of the earliest ways that crimes were solved, Megan wanted a little more history on detectives' use of fingerprinting. She came across an awesome website that informed her of infamous criminals and she found some history on fingerprinting. She also noticed that the text was a super example of Timeline Sequence Nonfiction Text Structure.

Now it's **Your Turn!** Read ***Dusted and Busted*** and create your own *Think Aloud* and Graphic Organizer.

Then compare your thinking with **Megan's Think Aloud and Graphic Organizer**.

thinking ALOUD
Making Sense of Literacy

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Before You Read:

Think about what you may already know about fingerprinting. Think about what you've learned about timelines and sequencing. Then, jot your ideas.

While You Read:

Notice signal words that can help you determine the order of the events. You may want to highlight signal words in blue and the events in green and orange. (You may use any colors available to you – just remember your color scheme!)

After You Read:

- Now it's time to try Thinking Aloud on your own. Ask yourself this question, *"What is the timeline of the history of fingerprinting?"*
- Use the information you've learned from this passage and Sequence Nonfiction Text Structure to determine the timeline of fingerprinting.

Dusted and Busted

Did you know that our personal identification is right at the tips of our fingers? Fingerprints are made up of a unique pattern of ridges, spirals and loops. These patterns researchers found in the 1800s, unlocked a door for solving crime.

1858: Sir William James Herschel, a Chief Magistrate in India, began using people's fingerprints on contracts. Herschel took note of the differences in the fingerprints, and how they stayed the same from year to year.

1870-1880: During the 1870's, Dr. Henry Faulds, a British surgeon in Japan, started classifying what he called "skin furrows." Then in 1880, he contacted Sir Charles Darwin with his findings. Darwin, who was ill at the time, passed Faulds' research on to Francis Galton, a British scientist.

1892: Next, Francis Galton published the book, "Fingerprints." The book included the first formal method of classifying fingerprints. Galton proved that fingerprints did not change. Additionally, the chance of another person having the same pattern was 1 in 64 billion.

1892: In Argentina, the first criminal case was solved using a bloody fingerprint on a doorpost.

1897: Sir Edward Henry in British India reworked Galton's system of classifying fingerprints. Henry's system is still widely used today.

Since 1897, fingerprinting has expanded and become more sophisticated through technology. It remains one of the most common and reliable ways to solve crime worldwide.

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Create a Graphic Organizer:

After you have determined the sequence for the timeline, create a graphic organizer below to represent your thinking and to help you remember the author's main points.

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Compare your Think Aloud with Megan's Think Aloud:

Megan's Think Aloud: In looking at the text, I notice that the author has used dates to identify the sequence of a time period. These dates signal to me that this is written in sequence text structure. I know that when I see dates, a timeline graphic organizer is helpful in organizing the ideas I read. From the last sentence in the introduction I know that this research began in the 1800s. I didn't realize fingerprinting had been used for so long!

I'm going to record the specific events on my timeline. I realize that my first entry will be 1858, since that is the earliest date mentioned. Using people's fingerprints on contracts makes sense to me. No one could forge your signature!

The words "during the 1870s" signals that Herschel spent years developing his classification. I also notice the word "Then." I'm thinking this signals a change in events. I remember hearing Darwin's name associated with the theory of evolution. I wonder what would have happened had he worked with fingerprints instead? I record these entries on my timeline.

I know the word "Next" is a signal word in sequence text structure, so I know it is signaling an event that happens next. Galton must have appreciated the research since he wrote a book. I notice that the next entry lists 1892 again. Since it is the same year as the previous entry, I know two things happened in one year. I understand that Galton published his book the same year that the first crime was solved using fingerprints. I'll record these on either side of 1892 on my timeline to indicate these two events occurred in the same year.

1897 is the last year listed, so I know that it is the last event in this text. It says that Henry "reworked Galton's system." This tells me that Galton's method was not a perfect one. Even though there are no more dates listed, I know from the concluding sentences that the use of fingerprinting to solve crimes has grown and continues to change. That makes sense since technologies are always changing. It looks like I have loops on my fingers. I wonder if I can have different patterns on my toes?

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Compare your Graphic Organizer with Megan's Graphic Organizer:

Megan's Graphic Organizer: "Because the author is providing a sequence of dates I am going to create a timeline graphic organizer to record the events in sequence."

Questions to Think About:

- How do *signal words* help Megan make sense of the text?
- How does the *Timeline Graphic Organizer* help Megan sequence the important dates and ideas?
- Why might this process help you make sense of text?
- When might this process be useful?