

**VOCABULARY AND
COMPREHENSION
BUILDING
TOOLS AND STRATEGIES**



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VOCABULARY LOG

Vocabulary for _____

Name _____

Date _____

Vocabulary

Definition (critical attributes)

Sentence/Examples/Picture

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Word Relatives

All readers must gain the understanding that many, though not all, words that are similar in spelling and pronunciation often have similar meanings. These types of words can be called *relatives*. With this understanding, we are able to generate possible meanings for an unknown word if we are familiar with some of its *relatives*.

These supplemental activities are designed to help students gain this critical understanding and increase their word curiosity.

Lessons 1-12 Because students are not yet proficient in their ability to read long words, read the sentences in each family with your students. Next, have your students write a short definition for the last word in each family using both the context of the final sentence and the meaning of the related words revealed in the previous sentences. The students should not use a derivative to define the last word. Students will often find the task more interesting if they generate their definition with a partner.

Lessons 13-20 Students will be able to read these sentences independently. You may select to have the students work with partners while reading the sentences and writing a definition for the last word in each family.

Lesson 1: Word Relatives

Family 1

admit	If you have a ticket, they will admit you to the theater.
admitted	Jason and Samantha were admitted to the movie theater.
admission	The theater admission was five dollars.
admittance	Theater goers show their tickets to gain admittance .

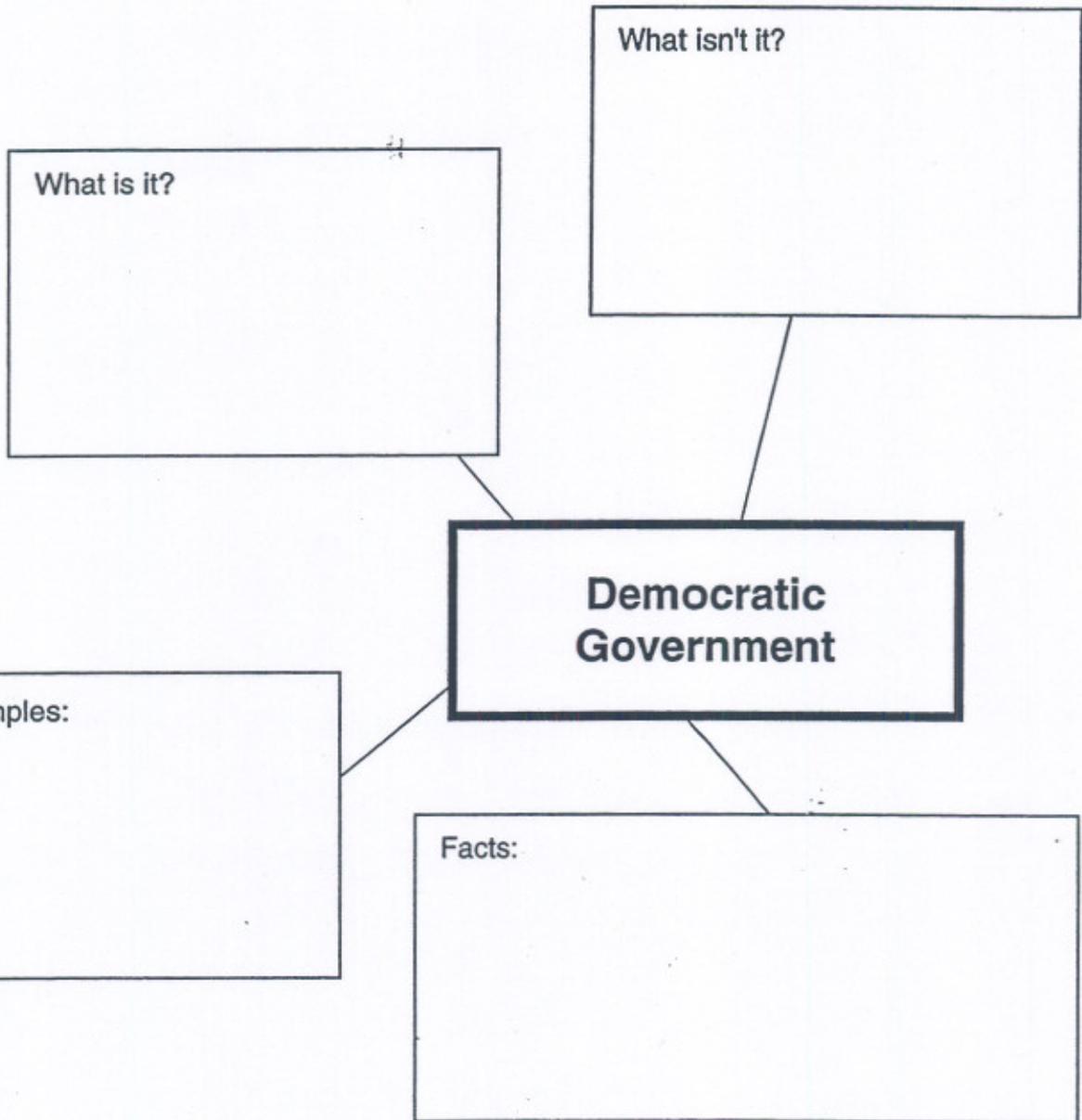
Family 2

maintain	You maintain a machine by taking care of it.
maintainer	A machine maintainer keeps it working.
maintainable	Machines that you can take care of easily are maintainable .
maintenance	All machines need some upkeep or maintenance .

Family 3

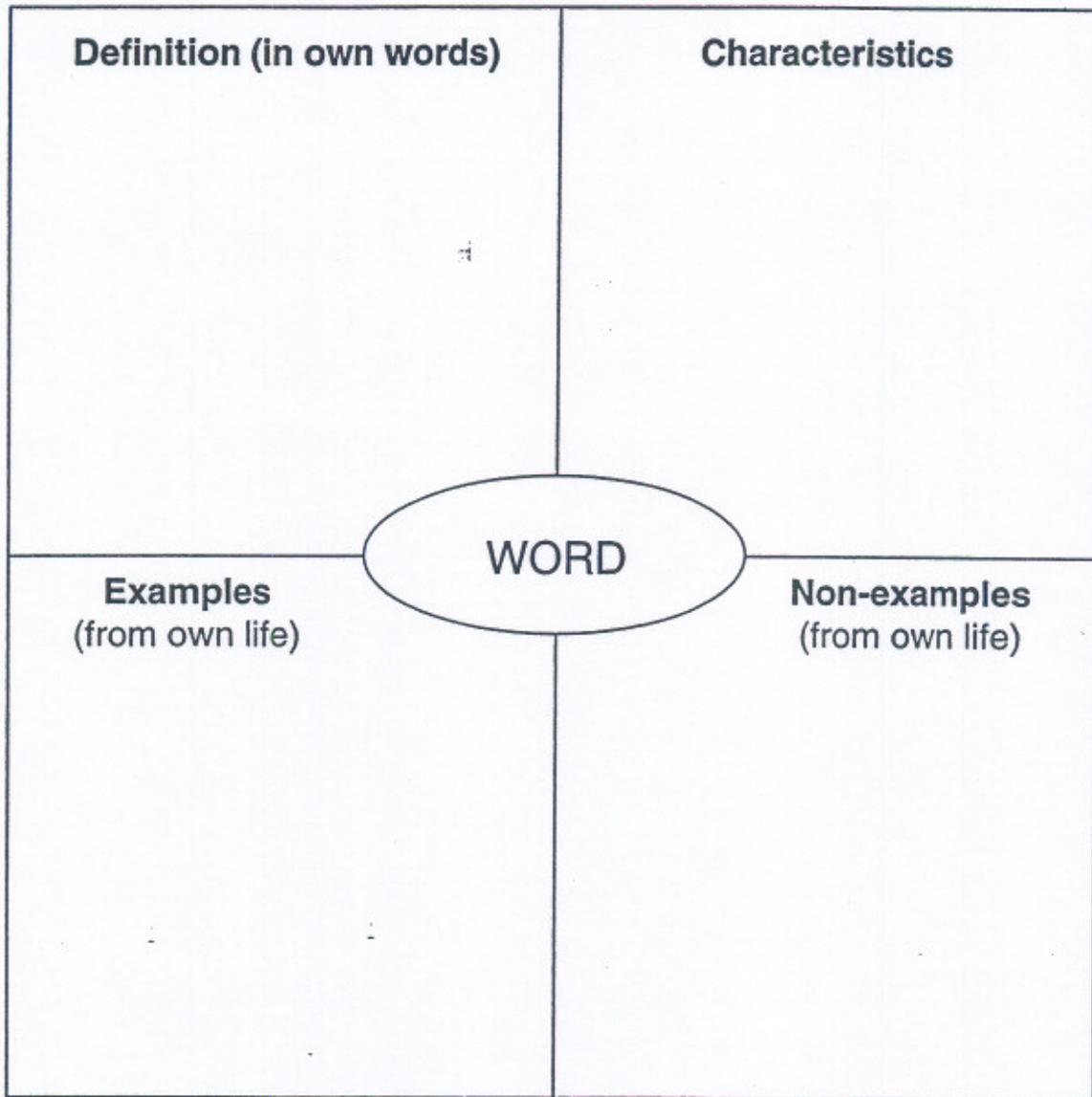
discover	The scientists hope to discover a cure for cancer.
discovered	They have discovered cures for other diseases.
discoverer	The discoverer of a cure for cancer would become very famous.
discovery	Such a discovery would be very important.

Concept Definition Map



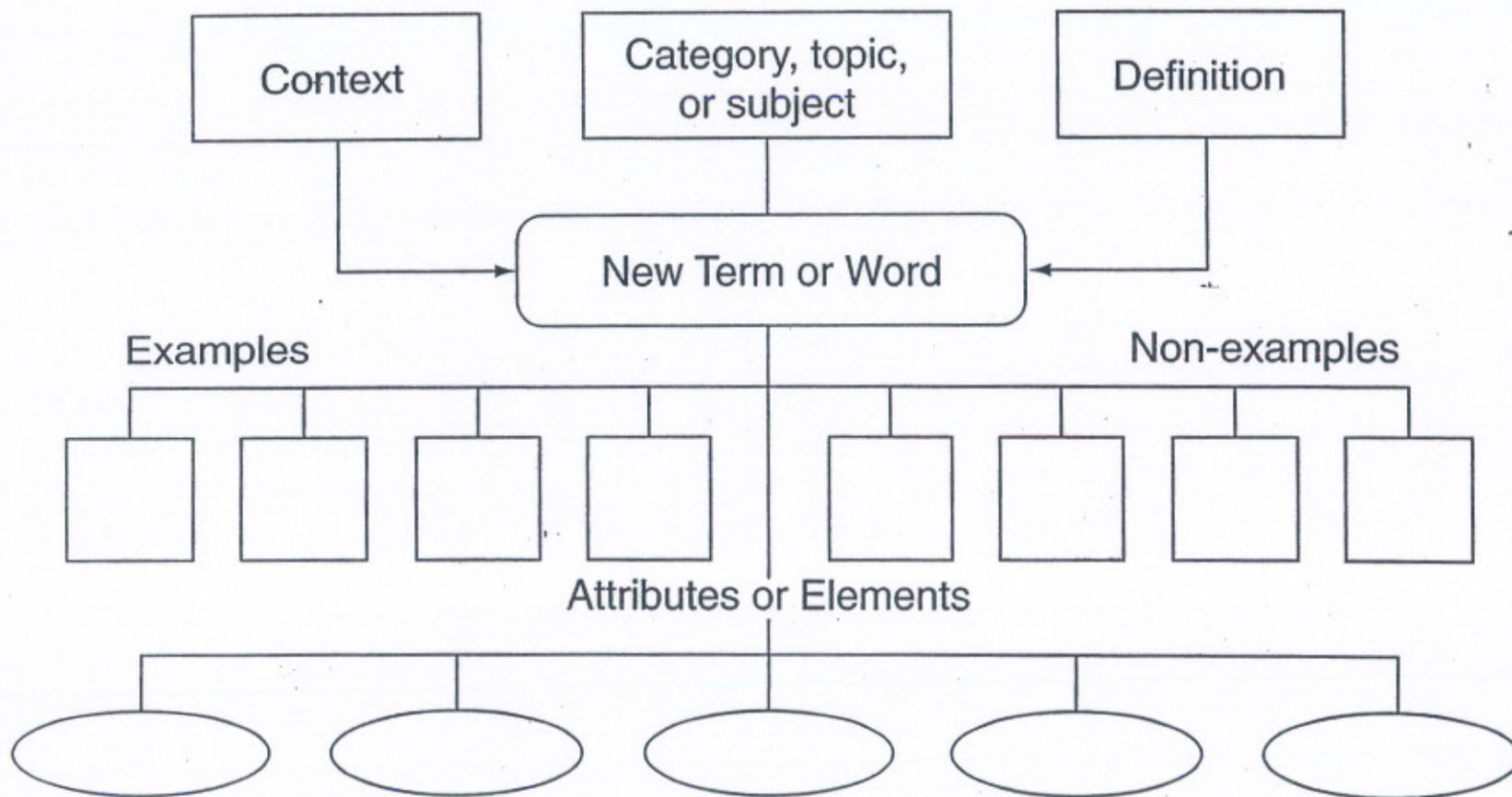
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Frayer Model



Note: From "A Schema for Testing the Level of Concept Mastery," by D.A. Frayer, W.C. Frederick, and H.G. Klausmeier, in Technical Report No. 16, Copyright © 1969 by the University of Wisconsin.

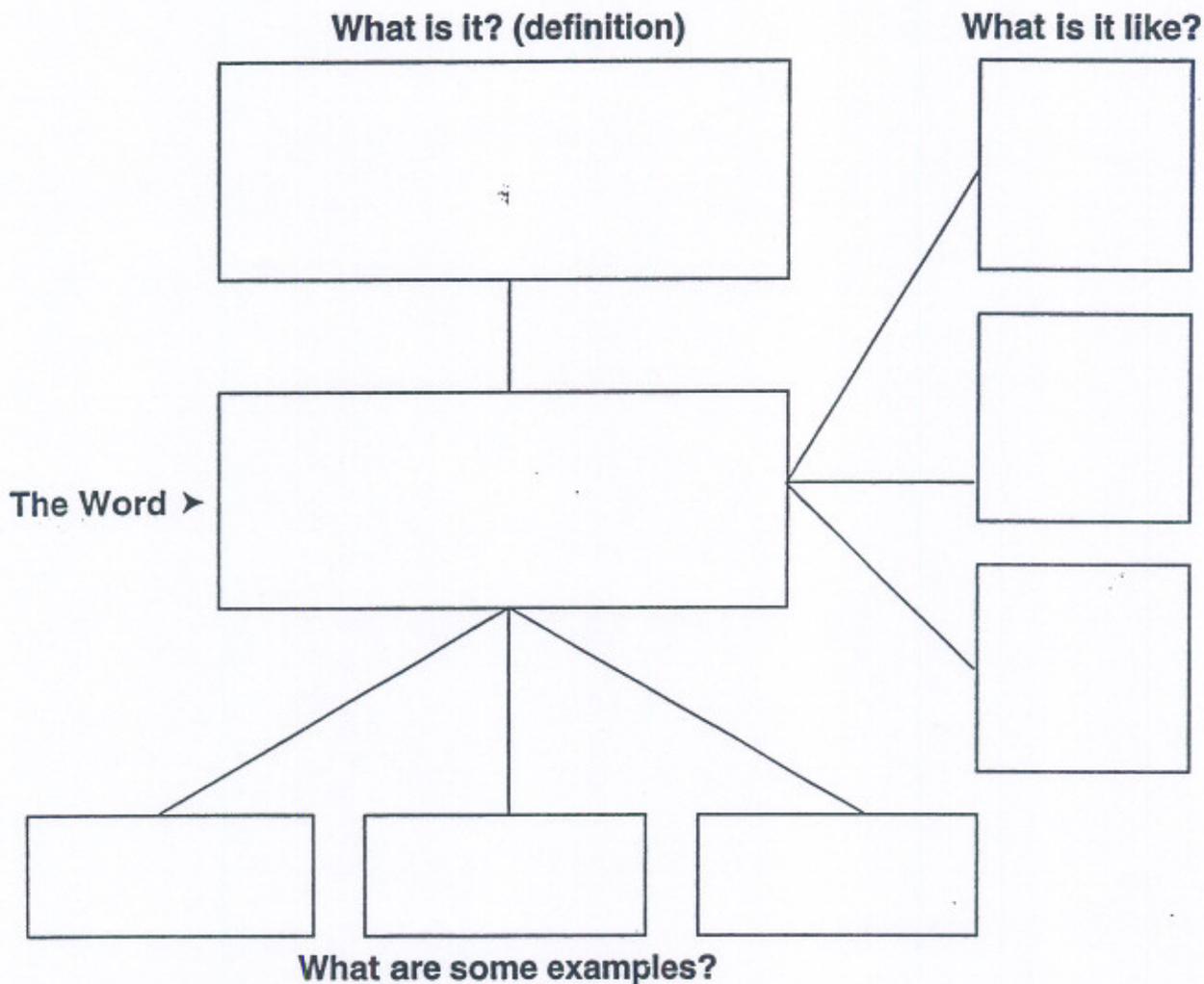
Stephens Vocabulary Elaboration Strategy



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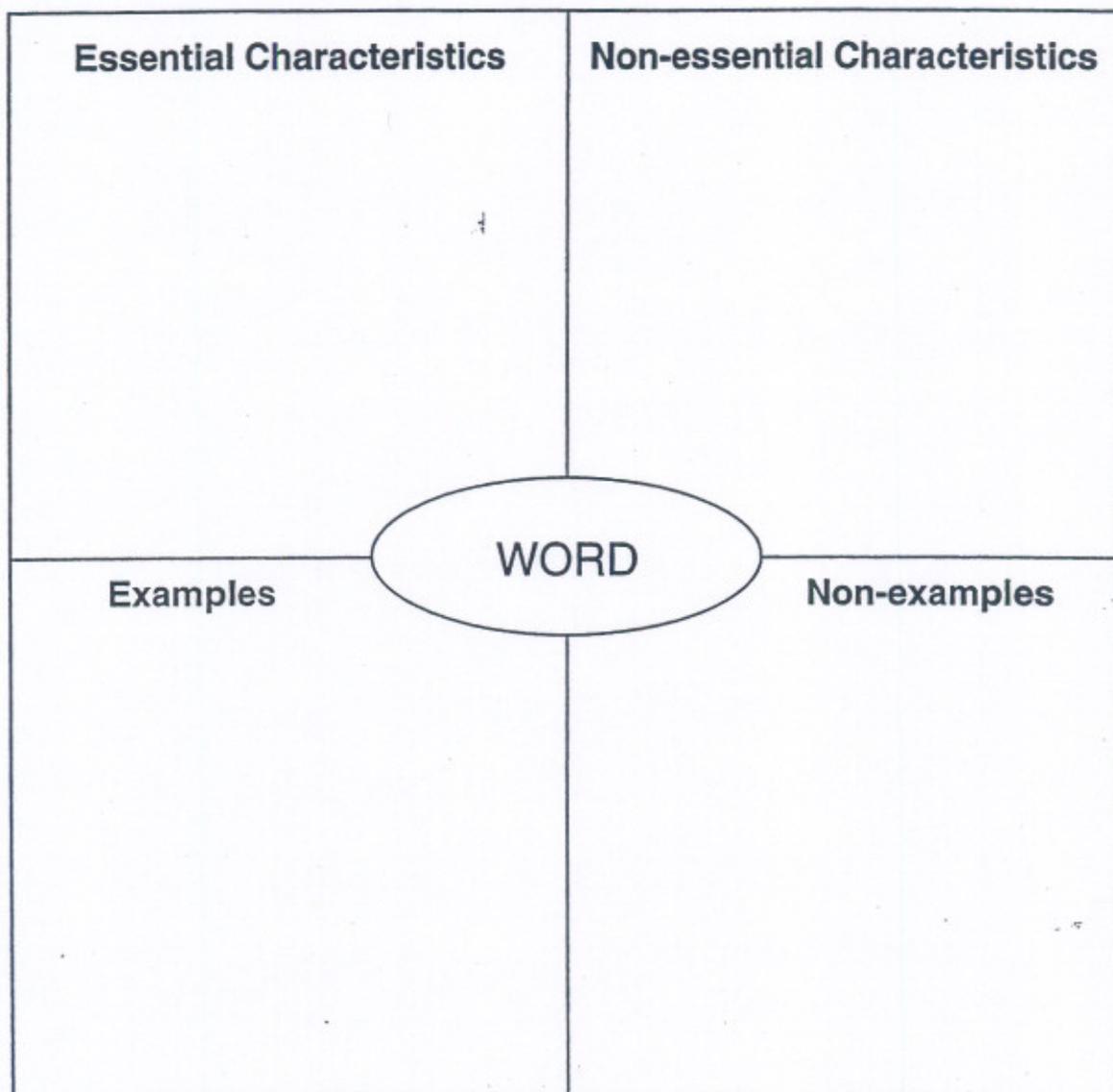
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Concept Definition Mapping



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Compare/Contrast Pattern

Two empty boxes for identifying the items to be compared.

HOW ALIKE?

Three horizontal lines for writing similarities.

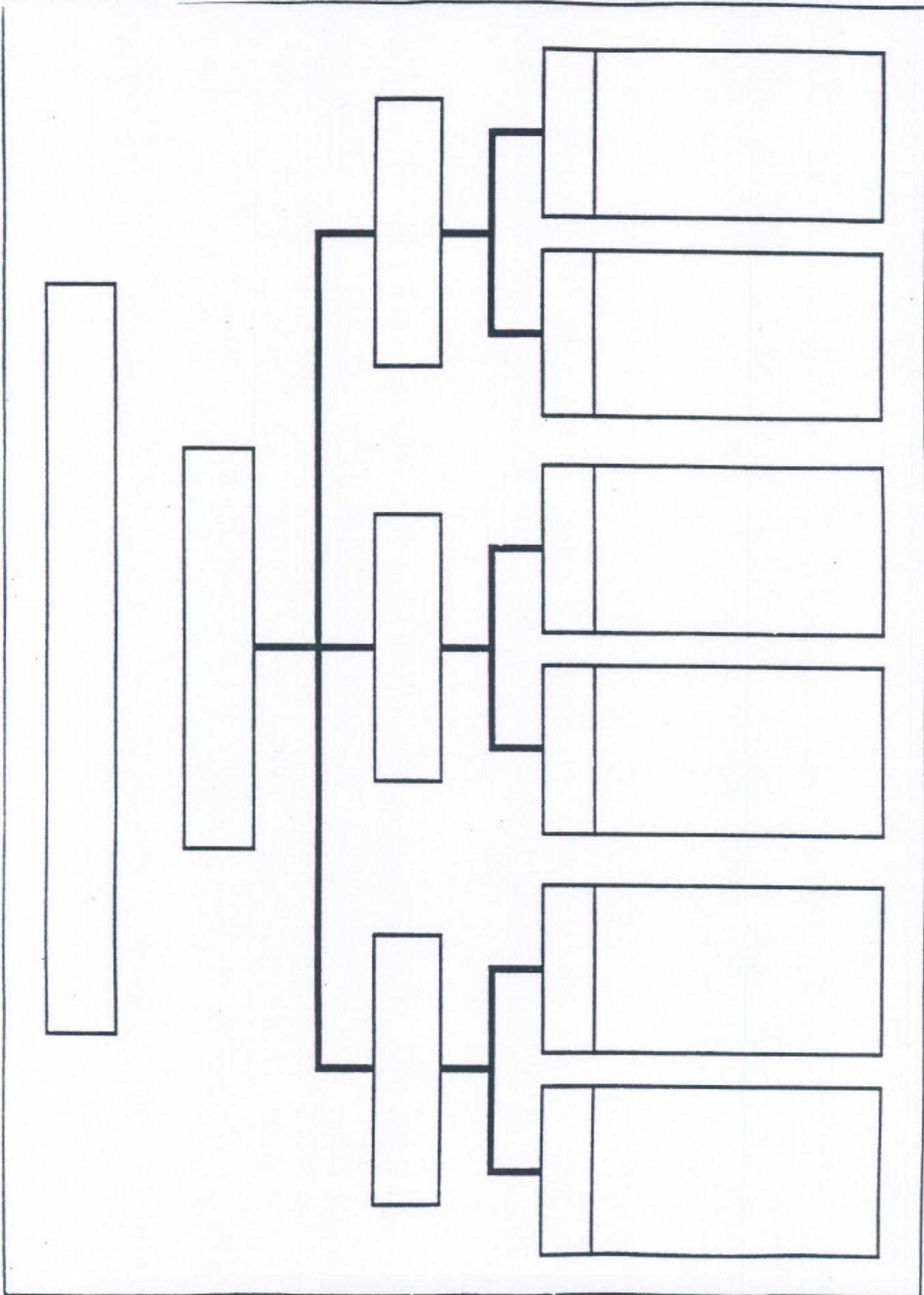
HOW DIFFERENT?

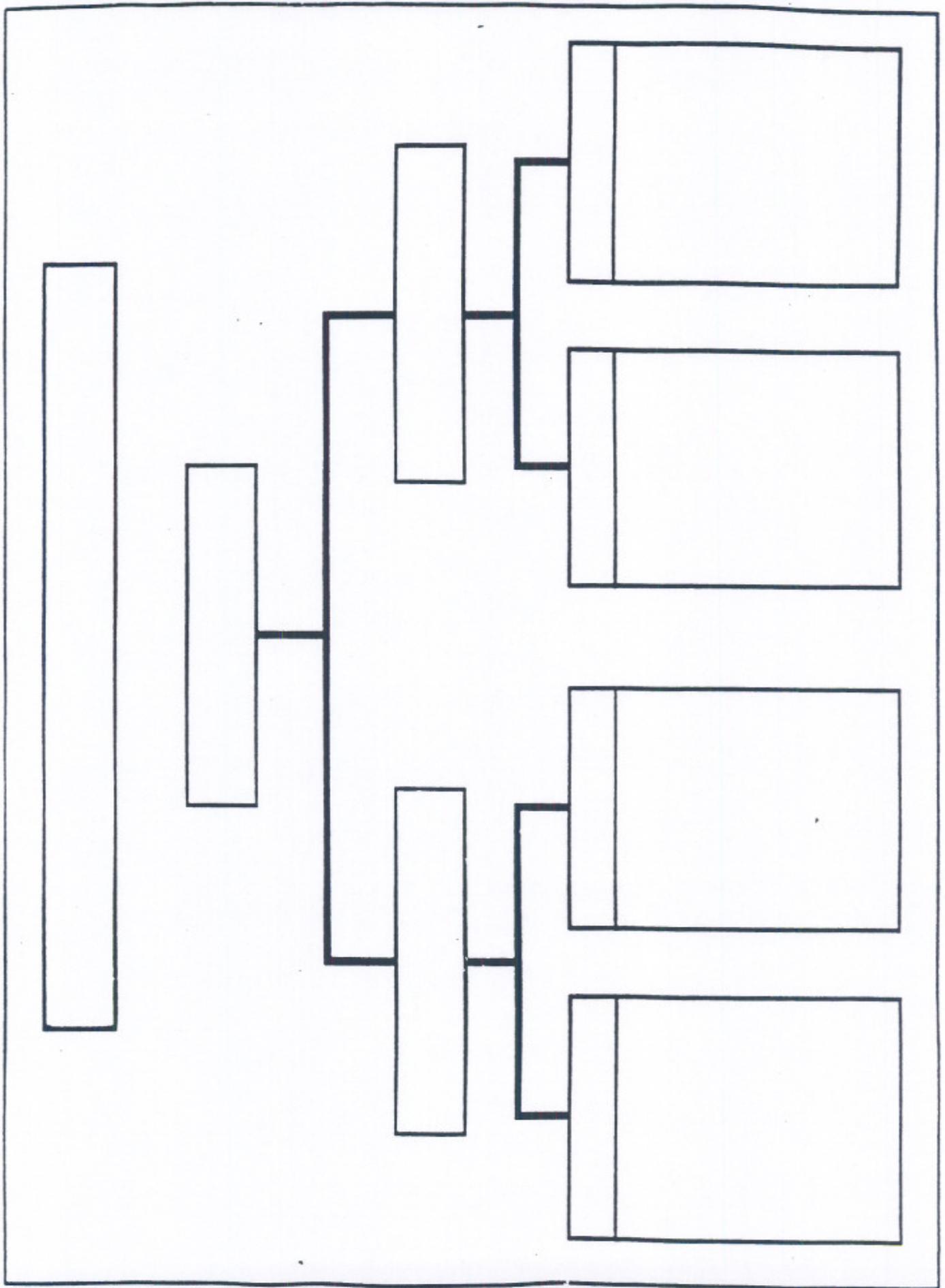
Two columns of horizontal lines for writing differences.

WITH REGARD TO

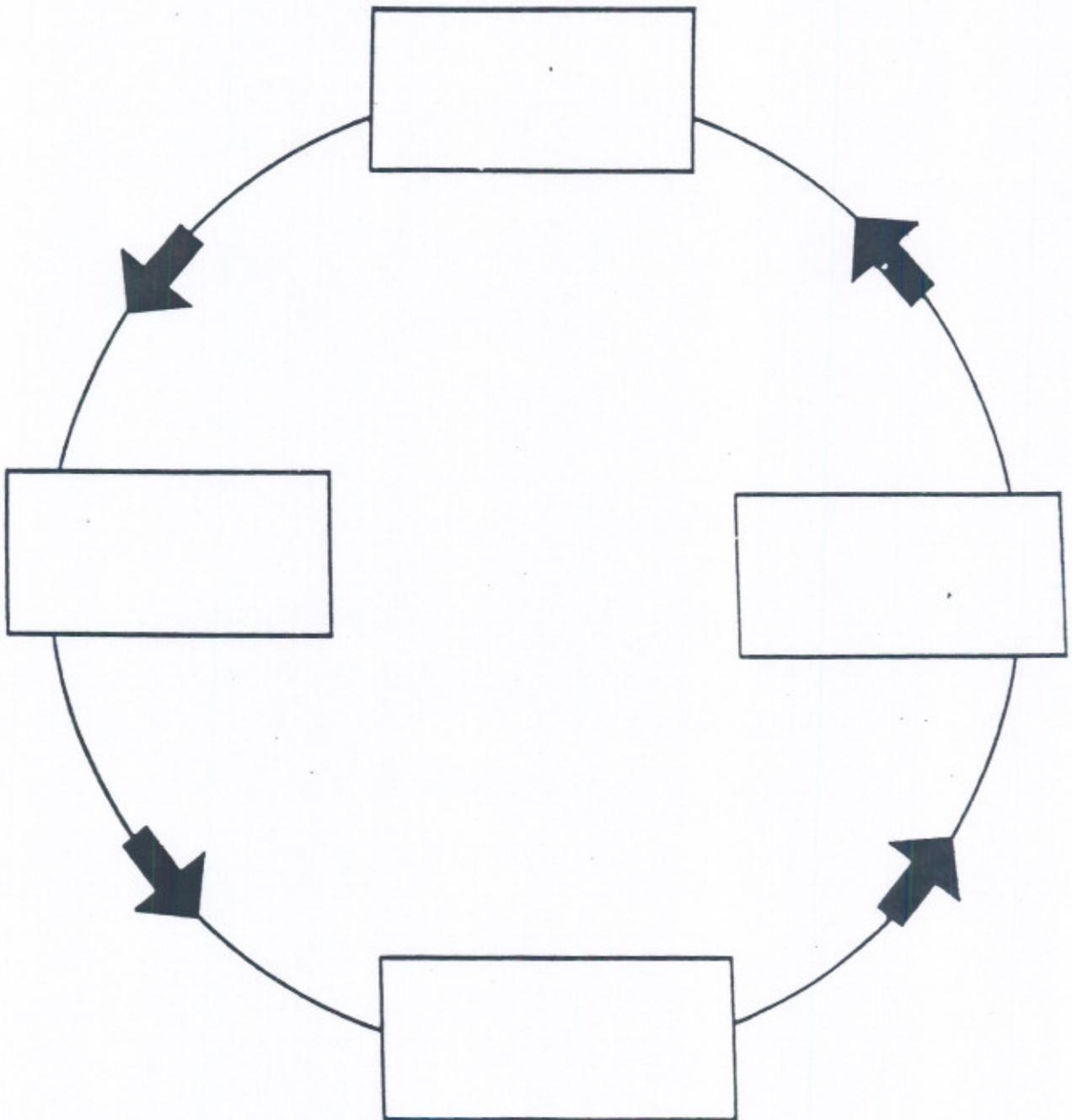
Five boxes in the central column, each with a double-headed arrow pointing to the left and right columns, indicating specific points of comparison.

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TITLE



Example 19: Comprehension - Story Grammar

TITLE _____

BEGINNING

At first.....

MIDDLE

Then.....

END

In the end