

Elaboration Structure—Problem/Solution

Definition: A Problem/Solution chunk defines the problem and describes how the problem will be (or was) solved.

Completion Checklist:

1. Does it support the idea in the topic sentence (*without overlapping with the other topic sentences*)?
2. Does it include 1-3 sentences defining the problem?
3. Does it include 1-3 sentences describing the solution?
4. Does it include a transition from the problem to the solution?

Length: 3-6 sentences.

In Context:

The
bolded
text
shares a
problem
and its
solution

Also, budgeting time is important because it relieves stress. **It's no secret that students these days are overscheduled and stressed out. Between Science Fair and soccer practice, there's little time left for kids to just enjoy life. By carefully planning their schedules ahead of time, students will be able to include some time to do whatever makes their heart sing—be it flying a kite, playing Call of Duty, or simply taking a nap.** In addition, having a plan will help them keep their minds in the moment instead of always wondering if there's something more urgent to do right now. Without a question, this will help to reduce stress in students' lives.

Common transition words: one of the problems, to solve this, therefore, by [verb]+ing, if, when

Samples:

- Most people do not have sufficient information to make healthy decisions about their diet. Many teens can't even distinguish a squash from a leek! If I create and distribute informational pamphlets and booklets in my school, the students will learn some strategies for incorporating healthy veggies into their daily diets.
- During the winter, the classrooms in my school are freezing cold. Staff and student illnesses, and therefore absences, skyrocket. The solution, of course, is to invest the money into a complete overhaul of the heating and cooling system. The increased student attendance alone will make the investment worth it.
- When kids go out walking with their parents, they will end up finding something they don't know anything about. If they don't know what it is, they might touch and/or eat something poisonous. The solution to this problem is teaching kids and parents about how to identify poisonous plants. If they know the difference, they would know if it is safe to touch and if they can pick it up.
- Elderly people often struggle with groceries, walking their pets, or even cleaning their lawns. In many cases, these citizens do not have someone who can aid them with these rather simple tasks. This will be an excellent use for the robots in my future community. They will help alleviate this problem by aiding the senior citizens with their everyday chores.