

Readers' Theatre Script: What Are Print Features?

Note: We recommend that students create an example of their text feature that they wear or put inside a lanyard. Students can show their text feature as they say their part. The teacher or a mentor can play the narrator to assist the group and eliminate those text features that have not been taught.

Characters (Total of Eight Parts): Narrator, Title, Heading, Bold Print, Caption, Pronunciation Guide, Bullets, Sidebar

Narrator	Today we are going to learn about some very important text features. Text features are the parts of a book that have been created to help you learn more about what is in the book. Today we are going to find out more about print features.
All	What are print features?
Narrator	Print features use words to explain something in the text. Some examples include titles, bold print, and captions.
All	What is a title?
Title	I am the name of the book or chapter. The title is the most important text feature.
All	Why?
Title	Because I tell you the main idea of the entire text or the chapter you are going to read.
All	What about headings?
Heading	I break up parts of a text. A heading gives you the main idea for the part of the book you are reading. When the topic or idea changes you have a new heading.
All	What is bold print?
Bold Print	I am an important word or phrase in the text that the author has made darker than other words. If you do not know the bolded word, you will want to find out what it means.
All	How about captions?
Caption	I am a word or a sentence that explains a graphic feature, like a picture, map, or a diagram.

Readers' Theatre Script: What Are Print Features? (continued)

All	What is a pronunciation guide?
Pronunciation Guide	I show you how to say a word. I am usually in parentheses next to the word.
All	What are bullets?
Bullets	We are used to list key points from the text. We are usually shown as a dot or a dash in front of each idea we are sharing.
All	How about a sidebar?
Sidebar	I am not in the main body of the text. I am usually set to one side of the main text and shaded to make me stand out. I give extra facts and interesting details about the topic of the book.
Narrator	Wow! I did not know how many different print features (point to the print features) I might find in a book. Now that you (point to the audience) have learned what these features are and why they are important, make sure you use them to help you understand what you are reading about.