

Readers' Theatre Script: What Are Organizational 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 Four Parts): Narrator, Table of Contents, Index, Glossary

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 organizational features.
All	What are organizational features?
Narrator	How many of you have a dresser at home where you put your clothes? I am guessing that you put all of your T-shirts in one drawer and all of your pants in another drawer. When you want a T-shirt, you know exactly what drawer to open. The drawers of the dresser help you organize your clothes. In a book, the organizational features help you find something in the text easier. Some examples include: a table of contents, an index, and a glossary.
All	What is a table of contents?
Table of Contents	You can find me at the beginning of a book. I am a list of key topics from the book that tells you what page you can go to, to find out about those topics.
All	How about an index?
Index	I am at the back of the book. I am more specific than the table of contents. You use me to find the page numbers for things that would interest you in the book, like an event, a person, or a term. I am in A-B-C order so you can find what you are looking for quickly.
All	Then what is a glossary?
Glossary	Like an index, I am also in A-B-C order and in the back of the book, but I am not a list. I tell what important words in the text mean. Usually, the word I define is in bold print in the text.
Narrator	Wow! I did not realize how many different organizational features (point to the organizational features) I might find in a book. Now that you (point to the audience) have learned what these features are and how they help you locate information in the text, you can use them to help you.