Identifying Methods of Development and Patterns of Organization

Good readers understand the tools and techniques of authors. To identify the methods of development used by an author in a text, you must first determine the author’s purpose by asking, “Why was this text written?” After determining the author’s purpose, you next ask, “What techniques did the author use to achieve his or her purpose?” These techniques are known as methods of development and could include, among other things, the organization pattern, word choice, or sentence structure used in the text.

Tip

One common pattern of organization for writers is the process paper. The process paper could be a set of instructions, a recipe, a “how-to” guide, or the narrative account of a real event. In a process paper, you describe or explain the steps in a process. A graphic organizer known as a flow chart helps you keep track of the steps. The flow chart also helps you see which steps come first in the process and which ones follow.

1. Review Actividad 42 “Un partido inolvidable” on page 46 in your textbook. After re-reading the description of the critical moments of the soccer game between La Real Sociedad de Santander and Barcelona, fill in the steps that led to Platko’s withdrawal and eventual return to the game in the flow chart below.

Sample question:

2. According to the account of the 1928 soccer game between Barcelona and La Real Sociedad de Santander, what happened at the moment when Platko threw himself on top of the ball that Cholín was taking in for a goal?
   A The fans from Barcelona grew hopeless.
   B Cholín kicked Platko’s forehead.
   C Barcelona won the game.
   D Half time arrived.