

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Text Features & Structure

Read the short story and answer each question.



Comparing Renewable and Nonrenewable Energy

What Is Energy?

Energy is what powers homes, cars, lights, and machines. We get energy from different sources, and they fall into two main groups: **renewable** and **nonrenewable**.

Renewable Energy

Renewable energy comes from natural sources that won't run out. These include sunlight, wind, water, and plants. Solar panels, wind turbines, and hydroelectric dams turn these sources into electricity. Renewable energy is cleaner and better for the environment.

Nonrenewable Energy

Nonrenewable energy comes from fossil fuels like coal, oil, and natural gas. These fuels were formed deep underground over millions of years. They are powerful but limited. When we use them up, they don't come back quickly. Burning fossil fuels also causes pollution.

Why Does It Matter?

Learning about energy types helps people make better choices. Many countries are working to use more renewable energy because it's safer for the Earth.



Name: _____

Explore the Rainforest!

1. Why does the author divide the text into sections with headings?

- A. To compare renewable and nonrenewable energy types clearly
- B. To describe how electricity is made in space
- C. To list types of plants
- D. To explain how coal is turned into gold

2. How does the section *Why Does It Matter?* help the reader?

- A. It explains why learning about energy helps us make smart choices
- B. It gives a recipe for fuel
- C. It lists the first fossil ever found
- D. It tells how to build a solar panel

3. Fill in the blank:

Wind and sunlight are examples of _____ energy sources that won't run out.

4. How does the structure of the text (with sections and a table) help you compare the two types of energy?

5. What would be more confusing without the headings and chart?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: P

Lexile Level: 645L-795L

Grade Level: 3rd Grade, End of the Year

Genre: Informational / Environmental Science

Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read a nonfiction passage that compares renewable and nonrenewable energy. As we read, we'll notice how the author uses text features—like section headings and a comparison chart—to help us understand the differences between the two types of energy sources."

Vocabulary: evaporation, condensation, precipitation, collection, vapor

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you know about how we get electricity?
 2. Have you heard of the words "renewable" and "nonrenewable" before?
 3. Why do you think it's important to understand where energy comes from?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What does the heading *Renewable Energy* tell you about that section?
 2. How are the two energy types alike and different?
 3. What information does the chart help you see quickly?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How did the text structure help you learn about energy?
 2. Why is it useful to divide the passage into sections with bold headings?
 3. How would a chart or visual help someone who is comparing energy types?
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Activity Idea

Let students fill in a Venn diagram comparing renewable and nonrenewable energy. Then, have them write a paragraph explaining the pros and cons of each type, using sentence starters like *One difference is...* and *Both types of energy....* They should refer to the text and the chart to support their ideas.

