Critical Concepts 7.3B Non-Fiction Writing Lesson Plans
Turning Graphic Organizers into Writing Responses

After students complete their organizers, model how to turn it into a short paragraph.

Prompt:

Using your graphic organizer for the story, write a paragraph analyzing **how two story elements interact** in the text. Include:

1. Identify **Story Element 1**
2. Identify **Story Element 2**
3. Explain how they interact
4. Use academic vocabulary from the word bank: character, conflict, plot, setting, theme

Story Element 1
Story Element 2
Explanation of Interaction
Closing Analysis/Insight

I Do – Teacher Model

Text: *The Pilot* (excerpt)

Example Response (Color-Coded):

The story *The Pilot* shows that Natty Bumppo (character) and the battle at sea (conflict) interact closely because Natty's bravery drives the plot forward, and his decisions influence the fate of other characters. This demonstrates how character and conflict combine to shape the narrative and its meaning.

We Do – Guided Practice

Text: *The Shunned House* – H.P. Lovecraft

Example Response (Color-Coded):

In *The Shunned House*, the abandoned house (setting) and the theme of fear and superstition interact because the eerie and isolated setting heightens the characters' fear, which drives the suspense of the plot. This interaction shows how the author uses setting to reinforce the story's theme.

You Do with Partner – Collaborative Practice

Text: *The Unknown Soldier* – Angela Morgan

Example Response (Color-Coded):

The Unknown Soldier reveals that the soldiers (character) and the theme of sacrifice and honor interact because the soldiers' actions in battle illustrate the theme, showing how bravery and

duty affect the events of the story. This demonstrates how character and theme work together to deepen our understanding of the story's message.

You Do Independently – Independent Practice

Text: *The Cunning Hare* – Andrew Lang

Example Response (Color-Coded):

In *The Cunning Hare*, the clever hare (character) and the hare outwitting the fox (plot) interact because the hare's intelligence directly causes the events of the story, determining the outcome of the chase. This shows how the author uses character to drive the plot and create tension in the story.