Sentence Frames

From our class notes:

1. Some sentence frames are complicated because they have a lot of blanks; it often helps students to know what is expected if you include more information. Read the following sentence frame:

   _____ did _____ because she believes _____.

   This is fairly confusing, particularly to a novice reader.

   (Character Name) did (action in the text) because she believes (phrase about what character believes).

2. Include the punctuation in your frame.
   - Makes the ideas more important than the grammar.
   - Reinforces the grammar rule.
   - Helps students see how the ideas fit together.

3. Use the same size line/blank for all your lines/blanks in a frame.
   - Varying the size implies a length of expected answer

4. Remember that sentence frames give students a place to start; however, this is not where we want students to stop so you may want to add specific places for students to fill in additional thoughts.

   _____ did _____ because she believes _____. I think _____ because _____.

   You can also show students how to rearrange sentence frames so there is variety in how they structure the sentences.

   Because _____ believes _____, she did _____.

These are the ones we developed in class yesterday:

Sentence Frames—Identifying Cause/Effect in Language Arts

- I think _____ and _____ caused _____ because _____.
- The character was motivated to _____ because of _____.
- _____ occurred because of _____.
- Because this character did _____ and _____, _____ happened.
- It was obvious that _____ would happen, because _____ and _____ happened before and were good clues.
- Whenever _____ happened, it always resulted in ____. This happened because _____.


• It may seem that _____ happened because of _____, but I know that the real reason was _____.
• I think_____ happened because of _____, _____ and _____.
• The _____ had to _____ because of _____, _____, and _____.
• The_____ happened because of _____; this is important because all_____ have to _____, _____ and _____.
• Once he/she made the decision to _____, _____ changed because _____.
• I think because the story changed when the character did_____ because _____.

Sentence Frames—Interpreting in Language Arts

• The author means_____ when she said _____.
• The _____ is a symbol for_____ because of_____.
• The novel’s theme was _____ because of _____.
• _____ wouldn't have happened if _____ didn't happen first.
• The only reason _____ did _____ was because _____ did _____ first.
• All (character) could do after ____ was _____.
• I can make a connection between _____ and _____ because _____ has this event and _____ has this _____ event.
• _____ could be classified as a _____ because of _____.
• The point of view in _____ is _____. Examples from the text are _____, _____, and _____.
• When he/she said “_____” I think he/she meant _____.
• I think _____ could be a symbol for _____ because _____.
• I understand _____ so when _____ happens in the story, I think it means _____.
• I felt her only real choice was _____ because _____.
• I think he was really looking for _____.
• The lesson he was trying to teach her was _____.
• _____ reminds me of _____. they are similar because _____.
• The text says _____, and I know that _____, so _____.
• The author chose to _____ as a way to show _____. I know this because ___. 