

Conventions of Non-Fiction Text

[Nonfiction text features](#) help a reader navigate nonfiction text more easily and make sense of what they are reading.

Conventions	Purpose
Headings	Help the reader recognize the supporting points and the organization of the development of the main idea.
Charts/Graphs	Help the reader visualize what the author is telling us.
Labels	Help the reader identify a graphic and/or its parts.
Photographs	Help the reader understand exactly what something looks like.
Captions	Help the reader better understand a picture or photograph.
Comparisons	Help the reader understand the size of one thing by comparing it to the size of something familiar.
Cutaways	Help the reader understand something by looking at it from the inside.
Maps	Help the reader understand where things are in the world.
Types of print (bold , <u>underline</u> , <i>italics</i>)	Help the reader by signaling, "Look at me! I'm important!"
Close-Ups	Help the reader see details in something small.
Table of Contents	Help the reader identify key topics in the book in the order they are presented.
Index	An alphabetical list of almost everything covered in the text, with page numbers.
Glossary	Helps the reader define words contained in the text.