

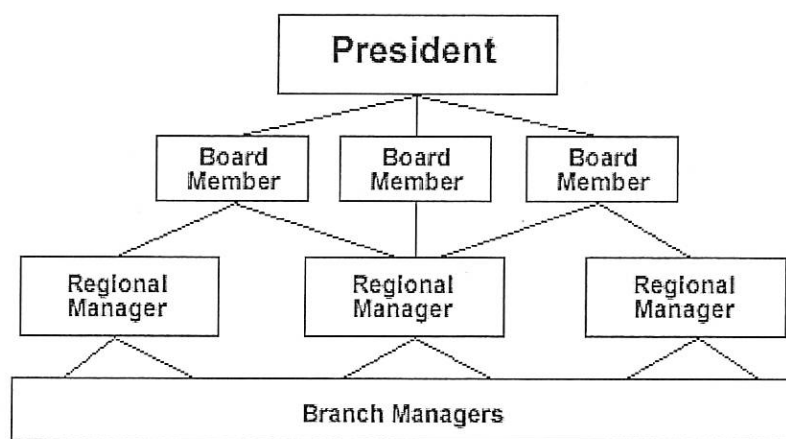
# Order of Importance

Ideas or steps are prioritized by the writer or speaker according to a hierarchy of value. When using the order of importance pattern of organization, information can be structured from most important to least important or least important to most important. Both structures would be considered as the order of importance text structure.

**Example:** The company has a clearly laid out hierarchy. All major decisions go through the president, who controls the entire operation, but most daily decisions go to the board. Beneath the board members are the regional managers, who oversee the branch managers, who run each local branch.

The Order of Importance organizational pattern can be difficult to identify alongside cause and effect and sequence text structures. In fact, in some cases one could use the same graphic organizer to represent information from an

## Order of Importance



Order of Importance Example: Power Structure

order of importance and sequence passage. The difference is subtle and must be inferred at times, but generally a sequential passage explains the steps that occur in a process.

## Learn More About Patterns of Organization

Patterns of Organization

## **CHAPTER 21 (The Trial)**

1. Calpurnia comes into the courtroom to hand a note to Atticus. What does the note say?
2. Why is Jem certain that Tom Robinson will be acquitted?
3. What does Reverend Sykes say about his experiences in court?
4. As everyone waits for the verdict, a certain impression creeps into Scout's mind. What is she remembering? What is the significance of the impression?
5. When the jury comes in, what does Scout notice about the jurors' behavior? According to her, what does their behavior signify?
6. The climax occurs when the jury gives its verdict. How does Jem react to the verdict? How does Atticus react?
7. What do you think Atticus whispers to Tom Robinson just before he leaves the courtroom?
8. What do the black spectators do as Atticus leaves the courtroom? What does their gesture signify?

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## **CHAPTER 22**

1. What does Atticus mean when he says, it "seems that only children weep"?
2. On the morning after the trial, the kitchen table in the Finch household is "loaded with enough food to bury the family." Who brought the food, and why? What is Atticus's response?
3. Jem uses the metaphor of a caterpillar in a cocoon to describe his feelings. According to him, in what way is he like a caterpillar in a cocoon? What feeling is he struggling with, and how does it relate to the trial and the town of Maycomb? What does the caterpillar symbolize?
4. What does Miss Maudie mean when she says, "...we're making a step—it's just a babystep, but it's a step"? What evidence does she use to explain her optimism?
5. As the children watch the neighbors gossip, Dill makes a declaration about what he will be when he grows up. What does he say, and what are his reasons?

## **CHAPTER 23**

1. We learn that Mr. Ewell had actually threatened to kill Atticus. How does Atticus take the threat?
2. Alexandra disagrees with Atticus about the threat. Why? Should Atticus take the threat more seriously?
3. According to Atticus, what is optimistic about Tom's case?
4. If Tom is found guilty on appeal, what will his punishment be? Why?
5. Jem and Atticus converse about some of the obvious problems with the legal system. Briefly summarize their discussion. What are Jem's major points, and how does Atticus address them?
6. What does Atticus mean when he says, "...it's all adding up and one of these days we're going to pay the bill for it"?
7. According to Atticus, what are three reasons why many Maycomb citizens do not want to serve on a jury? Summarize the example he uses to illustrate one of these reasons.
8. Atticus says that the fact that the jury took so long to reach a verdict may indicate "the shadow of a beginning." What does he tell Jem and Scout about one of the jurors?
9. When Scout learns about the Cunningham juror, what does she say she will do as soon as school starts? What is Aunt Alexandra's response?
10. What physical signs indicate that Jem is growing up? What does he show to Scout when he brings her into his room?
11. Scout explains to Jem what Aunt Alexandra said that caused her to cry. What was it that upset her most?
12. How does Jem describe the social hierarchy in Maycomb?
13. Jem talks about "background" to explain how the Finches are different from the Cunninghams. How does he define "background"? What is Scout's response to his theory?
14. At the end of the chapter, what conclusion does Jem draw about Boo Radley? What leads him to this conclusion?