Informational Text Structure Paragraphs

1. The earth's crust is made up of mostly of hard, rocky substances, though some of these substances have crumbled into dirt from years of exposure to wind and rain and roots of plants. That crust is many miles thick (though the part under the ocean is thinner that the part on the land). Underneath the crust is a layer called the mantle. The mantle is about 1800 miles thick. Below the mantle is the earth's core, which is made up of two layers called the inner core and outer core.

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2. How do mountains like this disappear? The process begins with rain. As it rains, water seeps through cracks and joints in the stone. Chemicals in the water dissolve small grains of rock. Later on, the water freezes and thaws, prying loose bigger pieces of rock. These rocks grind against other rocks as they slide downhill. The wind carries away particles of dust left behind be these grinding rocks. In the end it can be said that wind, water, and gravity have hauled away these mountains.

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3. An electrical circuit is made up of electrons moving in a circuit. Electrons are tiny bits of negative electricity that are found In all matter. In certain materials such as iron, electrons can move more freely. These materials are good electrical conductors. In materials such as plastic, electrons are attached to larger particles and cannot move freely. These materials do not conduct electricity well and are called non-conductors or insulators. That is why a plastic spoon did not allow electrical current to pass through it in the Electric Stoppers experiment.

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4. Imagine you have a solid substance, such as ice. Heat it, which makes its temperature rise. When it reaches a certain level, the temperature stops rising and the substance begins to turn into a liquid. This temperature is called the substance's melting point. You keep heating. When all the solid has turned to liquid, the temperature begins to rise again. Eventually the temperature stops rising and the liquid begins to turn into a gas. The temperature at which this happens is called the boiling point. If you keep heating the temperature stays the same until all the liquid is gone. Then the temperature begins to rise again.

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