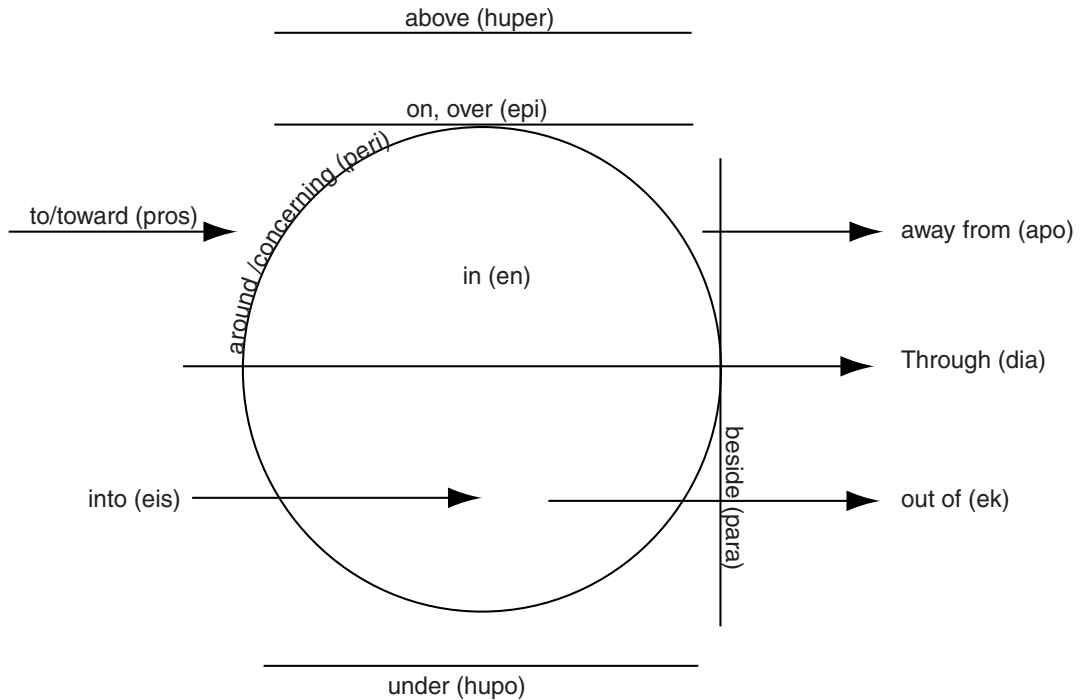


The Laws of Structure

LAW	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES
Cause & effect	One event, concept, or action that causes another (key terms: <i>therefore, so, then, as a result</i>)	Mark 11:27-12:44 Rom. 1:24-32; 8:18-30
Climax	A progression of events or ideas that climb to a certain high point before descending	Ex. 40:34-35; 2Sam. 11; Mark 4:35-5:43
Comparison	Two or more elements that are alike or similar (key terms: <i>like, as, too, also</i>)	Ps. 1:3-4; John 3:8, 12, 14; Heb. 5:1-10
Contrast	Two or more elements that are unlike or dissimilar (key terms: <i>but, yet</i>)	Ps. 73; Acts 4:32- 5:11; Gal. 5:19-23
Explanation or reason	The presentation of an idea or event followed by its interpretation	Dan. 2, 4, 5, 7-9; Mark 4:13-20; Acts 11:1-18
Interchange	When the action, conversation, or concept moves to another, then back again	Gen. 37-39; 1 Sam. 1-3; Luke 1-2
Introduction & summary	Opening or concluding remarks on a subject or situation	Gen. 2:4-25; 3; Josh. 12; Matt. 6:1
Pivot or hinge	A sudden change in the direction or flow of the context; a minor climax	2 Sam. I 1-12; Matt. 12; Acts 2
Proportion	Emphasis indicated by the amount of space the writer devotes to a subject	Gen. 1-11; 12-50; Luke 9:51-19:27; Eph. 5:21-6:4
Purpose	A declaration of the author's intentions	Jn. 20:30-31; Acts 1:8; Tit. 1:1
Question & Answer	The use of questions or questions and answers	Malachi; Mark 11:27-12:44; Luke 11:1-13
Repetition	Terms or phrases used two or more times	Ps. 136; Matt. 5:21-48; Heb. 11
Specific to general, general to specific	Progression of thought from a single example to a general principle, or vice versa	Matt. 6:1-18; Acts 1:8; James 2

Prepositions

“Its the little things in life that really matter.” I’m not sure if that’s true, or not, but when it comes to observing the Bible, one can’t afford to skip these power packed buggers.



How many prepositions can you find in the passage below? How much would it change the passage if they were missing? Try replacing them with others, and see if the meaning changes significantly.

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? 2 This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? 4 Have you suffered so many things in vain-- if indeed it was in vain? 5 Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?-6 just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” 7 Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.” 9 So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.

Road Blocks to Communication

What can you do as the student?

Table with 2 columns: Problem, Solution. Rows include: Poor choice of words, Poor delivery, Distractions, Lack of Interest, Avoidance.

In Class Assignment

Look up the following verses, and, using the chart on pg. 11, note the law of structure contained therein. Do not look at the list of examples for your answer.

- Matthew 25:46
1 John 3:4
Acts 2:2
Acts 1:8
2 Samuel 11
Heb 11
1 Thes. 2:13



Active Reading Tip #5

Tip #5. Read the Bible *Purposefully* (Part 1)

While the Bible ultimately has one Author, each individual book has one or many sub-purposes in achieving the Author's purpose. Not one verse is without a purpose, and helps us to realize what that books purpose is.

There are 2 types of structure we can look for that will help us correctly conclude the author's purpose: Grammatical and Literary. This week we'll look at the first.

Grammatical Structure:

The relationship and interrelationship of terms within a given _____.

•Verbs

Action words that tell us who's doing what.

Example: Eph. 5:18 _____ not _____

Gen. 22:10 _____

• Subject and Object

The subject does the acting and the object is that which is acted upon.

ex., **Phil 2:3** "Let each of you regard one another as more important than himself."

verb: _____ **subject:** _____

object: _____.

ex., **Gal 6:4** But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

verb: _____ **subject:** _____

Object: _____.

• Modifiers

Descriptive words such as adjectives and adverbs. They enlarge the meaning of the words they modify. ex. **Phil 4:19**

• Prepositional Phrases (*see chart, pg. 12*)

• Connectives: _____, _____, & _____

HOMEWORK

Continue your Observation of Luke 12.

Now work with vv13-21, use all our observations tools thus-far discussed: (6W's, Grammatical Structure, Laws of Structure). **Make 50 more observations.**

Verbs

Words in action. There are several things to look for in verbs. Here are some of the main ones.

Voice

Indicates the relationship between the subject and the verb—whether the subject is doing the action, or receiving it.

Active Voice: The action is being accomplished by the subject.

Passive Voice: The subject is receiving the action of the verb. In English, it usually is expressed using the “to be” verb.

Middle Voice: The subject is acting in some way upon himself or concerning himself. English does not have a middle, thus making the translation difficult.

Example:

Now I know (active) in part, but then I shall know (middle) just as I also am known (passive). (1 Cor. 13:12b)

Tense

Present Tense: An action that is currently taking place. Usually pictured as on-going.
Every good tree brings forth good fruit. (Mt. 7:17)

Past Tense: Indicates an action already taken place. This is expressed in NT Greek as either the Aorist Tense, or the Imperfect Tense.

Some caution is needed with the Aorist, because while it may be translated in a *past* sense, the verb *may* not actually be indicating something that took place in the past, rather its just showing that its not an on-going thing. It is said to be “punctiliar.” Whereas the imperfect tense is indicating a past, continuous event.

But the abiding which you have received (aorist) from Him abides in you... (1 John 1:27)

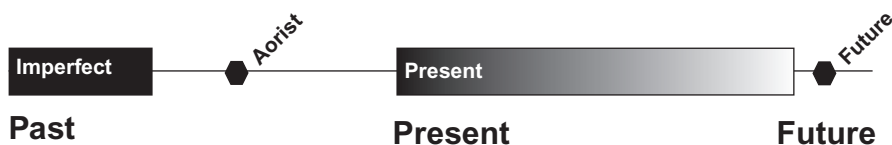
and the people sought [imperative, i.e., we’re continuously seeking] him. (Luke 4:42)

Future Tense: In the NT, it **almost** always refers to a punctiliar action, but the emphasis is on it being a future event, not what type of event it is.

He who loves me will be loved by my Father (John 14:21)

Perfect Tense: An action that started in the past, with an often on-going result.

It is finished (John 14:26)



Verbs, Cont'

Mood

Indicative: Used with a statement of fact, or to state a question. Can be used with any tense.

But we were gentle among you (1 thes. 2:7).

Subjunctive: Used to make an assertion about something for which there is some doubt, uncertainty, or indefiniteness.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves. (1 John 1:8)

Imperative: Indicates a command, request, or entreaty.

...as I have given orders to the churches in Galatia, so you must do also. (1 Cor. 16:1).

Give us this day our daily bread... (Luke 11:3)

Participles

Participles are typically the “ing” words that are not necessarily referring to a present action. They are technically neither verbs nor nouns...actually, they are the so-called verbal nouns.

Although not always translated with an *ing* ending, you can usually put an *ing* in the word and it will make sense.

example: *And when he had said these things, he took bread, and gave thanks to God in the presence of them all (Acts 27:35).*

Literally: Having said these things, after taking bread, he gave thanks to God in the presence of them all (Acts 27:35).

When you see an *ing* word, ask this question of it:

Is it speaking of time: *before eating, while eating, after eating*

Or is it speaking of manner: *by eating (i.e., because he ate...)*

example: Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory (1 Peter 1:8b)

Is it while, after, or before believing, or by believing that you rejoice...

Making Observations by Charting

Charting is a way to visually organize your observations. It's also very useful because the organization of your observations will be used to form an outline for your passage.

3 Reasons to Chart:

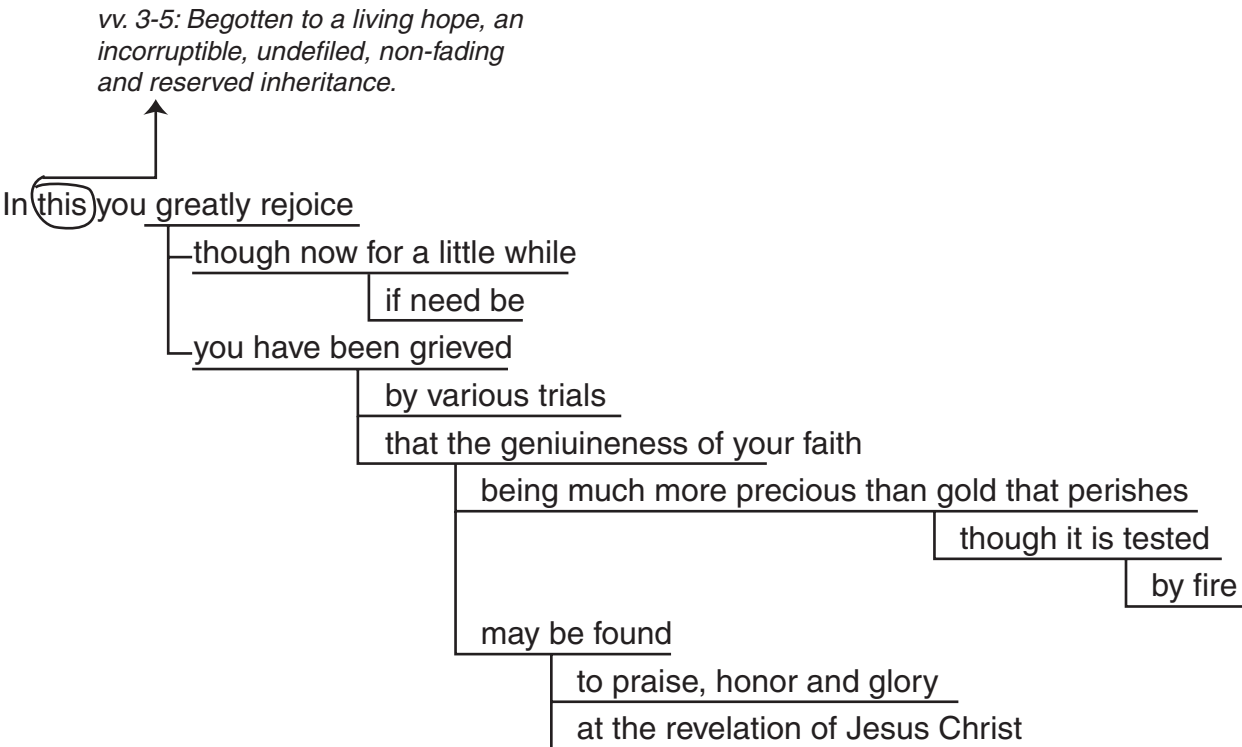
- 1) Enable us to visualize the content of the material to see what some's saying.
- 2) Means of recording our discoveries.
- 3) Help us teach large amounts of material.

3 Types of Charts: Grammatical, Vertical and Horizontal.

Grammatical Charts

Grammatical charts are used to highlight the main verbs, clauses and phrases, and to see how they relate to one another. Its basically diagramming, but I won't use that word, because people don't like to diagram.

Example: 1 Peter 1:6-7

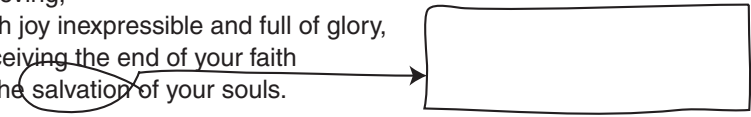


Observing

Vertical Charts

Vertical charts clarify the main units of thought. It is a combination of the grammatical chart, and chapter-titling taken to the next level.

Example: 1 Peter 1:3-12

3	<p>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has begotten us again according to His abundant mercy to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.</p>	Glorification Guaranteed
5	<p>In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,</p>	Glorification Developed
7	<p>(Jesus) whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet (while) believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, (afterward) receiving the end of your faith the salvation of your souls.</p> 	Focus until Glorification
9	<p>the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, have inquired and searched carefully, Of this salvation searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.</p> <p>To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven things which angels desire to look into.</p>	Glorification Foretold & Revealed
12		

Guides

Horizontal Charts

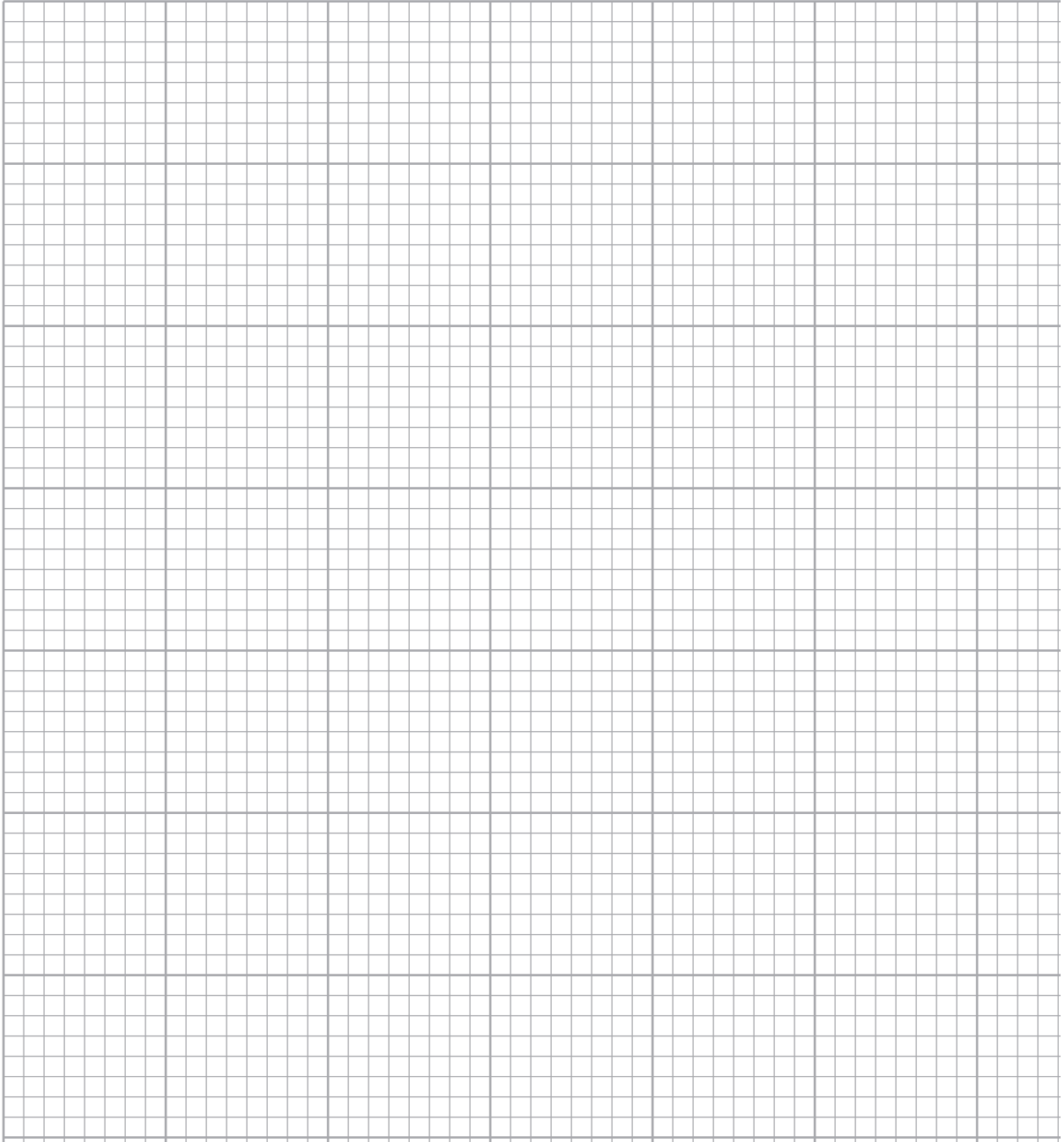
Horizontal charts are a very handy way to organize all your observations from a given passage, giving you a comprehensive picture of what, overall, is the big idea of your text.

Begotten & Kept for something great		focus despite trials	demonstrating your faith	you...love, believe, have joy	salvation at last	Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you	searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.	To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven--things which angels desire to look into.
Begotten to living Hope through JC	to a preserved inheritance	kept for this salvation	In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,	whom having not seen, you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory.	receiving the end of your faith--the salvation of souls.	10	11	12
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,	to an inheritance	who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.	that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,					
3	4	5	6	8	9	10	11	12

Observing

In class Assignment:

Using the grid below, make a grammatical chart of 1 Peter 1:12.



2-Week Homework Assignment (Due 9/16)

Make a horizontal chart of Luke 12:13-21.

Be sure to highlight the laws of structure, title each verse, group of verses and the whole paragraph. Keep you titles to 6 words or less, and have no more than 5 sub-groups per group (i.e., no more than 5 verses in the first group, no more than 5 groups for the next group, etc...).

You'll need at-least 3 levels of titles (including the verse titles, and the paragraph title).