ABSTRACT: As far as textual practices need to be understood in the context of their social and linguistic settings, they also have to be related to the textual genre to which they belong. Moreover, the compositional issue has to be considered. In this paper we aim to approach the relationship among these three aspects – texts, genre and composition – focusing on the establishment of a compositional typology which may be useful to textual analysis and theory. Thus, we purpose to distinguish generic and textual composition so as to define the two different dimensions that are constitutive of the linguistic objects and, simultaneously, to stress the nature of the interactions to be established between the generic and textual issues and how they reveal themselves on the structural level of texts.