

Warm-up Activities

Questions: why are reasons often asked and

answered?













INTRODUCTION

In our daily conversation, questions with why are often asked and answered. This shows that causal analysis is very common. Similarly, it is also frequently used in writing.



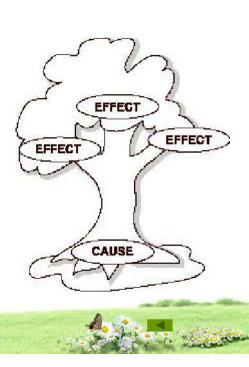
Cause & Effect

Cause

Tell readers why something happened

Effect

Tell readers the results of something

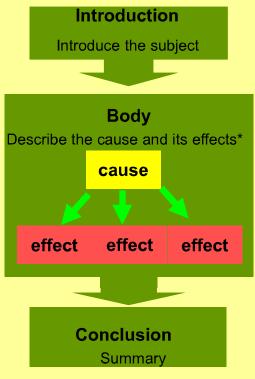


The Cause/Effect Essay

- The cause/effect essay explains why or how some event happened, and what resulted from the event.
- This essay is a study of the relationship between two or more events or experiences.
- The essay could discuss both causes and effects, or it could simply address one or the other.
- A cause essay usually discusses the reasons why something happened.
- An effect essay discusses what happens after a specific event or circumstance.

The application of cause-and-effect in an essay

Cause-and-Effect Essay at a Glance



*or may present an effect and then analyze the causes

Standards for Writing

A successful cause-and-effect essay should

- clearly state the cause-and- effect relationship being examined
- provide any necessary background information
- make the relationship between causes and effects clear
- arrange details logically and include transitions to show relationships between effects and causes
- summarize the cause-and-effect relationship in the conclusion



Example: High College tuition

Cause

- Government aids to universities are decreasing.
- Universities are recruiting famous professors with high salary.
- Universities are investing in new buildings and facilities.

Effect

- Students have to take part-time jobs and therefore cannot fully concentrate on studies.
- Students are in heavy debts right after graduation.
- Some students are forced to drop out.

A Cause Essay-Outline

- Introductory paragraph
 - **■** Thesis: Several factors lead to the rising of college tuition.
- Body paragraph 1
 - **C1:** Government aids to universities are decreasing.
 - C2: Universities are recruiting famous professors with high salary.
 - C3:Universities are investing in new buildings and facilities.
- Conclusion paragraph

Consequently, the above causes lead to the rising of college tuition.



An Effect Essay-Outline

- Introductory paragraph:
 - Thesis: The rising college tuition causes several problems for students.
- Body paragraph 1
 - E1: Students have to take part-time jobs and therefore cannot fully concentrate on studies.
 - **E2:** Students are in heavy debts right after graduation.
 - **E3:** Some students are forced to drop out.
- Conclusion paragraph

Therefore, these factors lead to the rising of college tuition.



Four patterns of cause-effect relationship

- Single-cause-single-effect pattern
- Single-cause-many-effects pattern
- Many-causes-single-effect pattern
- Causal chain pattern









Peer Pressure

Since I attend college, I feel more and more peer pressure. While I used to be a top student in senior high school, and was always praised by teachers and envied by peers, now I find there are a lot of talented peers in college and I am temporarily and relatively poor in academic performance.

Therefore, I feel that I have changed from a hero to a zero.

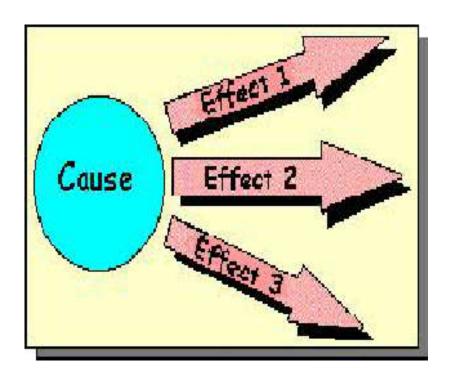


Cause & Effect Relation

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Single-cause-many-effects pattern



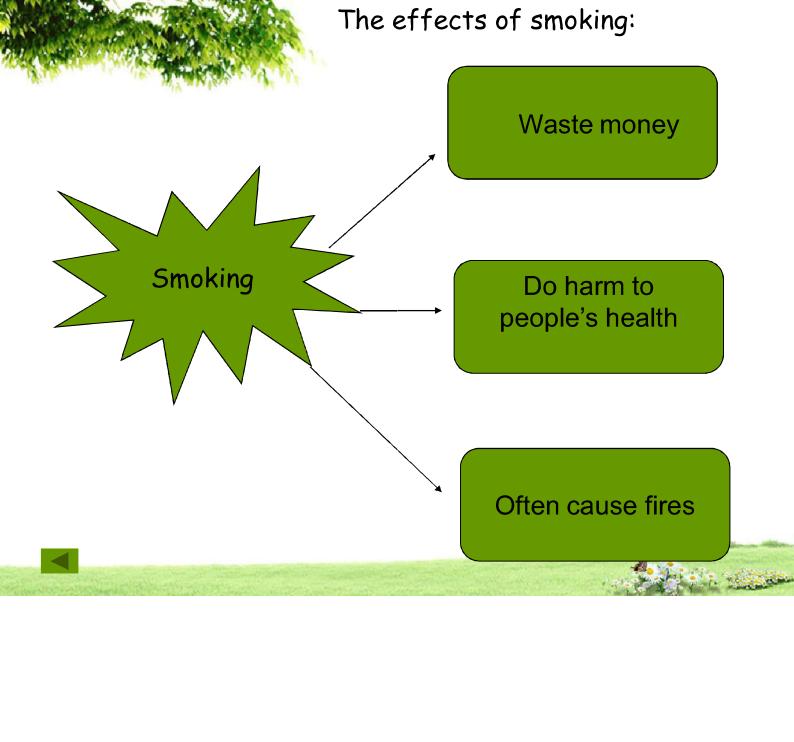




What are the effects of smoking?

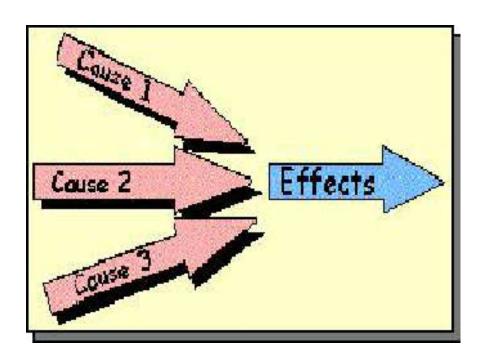






- Smoking is a bad habit indeed though many people like doing it.
- The first disadvantage is that smoking is a waste of money. In many countries, cigarette tax is the biggest one in a country's income, from which we can infer how much money has been smoked away.
- Doing harm to people's health is its another shortcoming. According to some scientific data, there is no room for doubt that many fatal diseases are caused by smoking. Besides, smoking seriously pollutes the air.
- The worst of all, smoking is often the cause of fires, which leads to many terrible deaths and lots of destruction of houses.
- In short, smoking is definitely harmful to both people and the world and therefore it is high time that we said "no" to smoking.

Many-causes-single-effect pattern





What are the causes of air pollution?





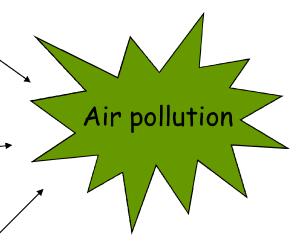


The cause of air pollution:

Exhaust gas from cars

Uncontrolled factory gasses

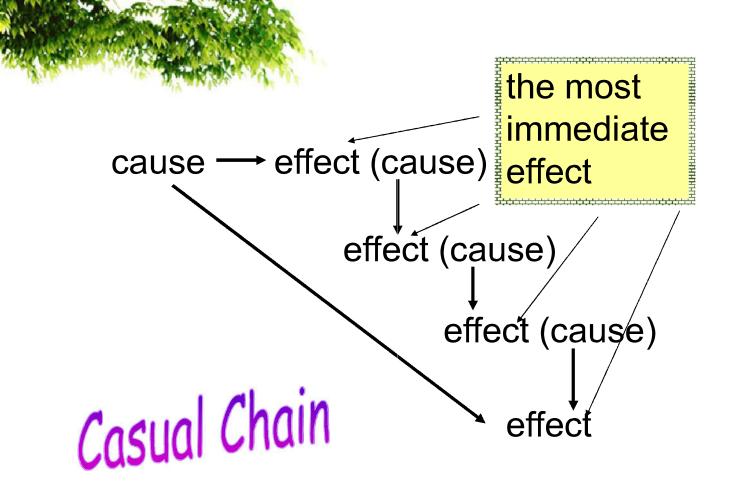
Burning of low quality coal



- 1 People and air pollution are often in the same places. This means that cities with large populations have the biggest problem of dirty air. Air pollution is caused by many different things.
- ② A major kind of air pollution is the gas from cars. Statistics show that 93 percent of all auto trips are within cities.
- 3 Another major kind of dirty air is the burning of coal and oil for energy. This energy is needed to make electricity. Of course, much more electricity is used in the city than in the country.



- ④ On the average, we throw away more rubbish than the year before. The burning of rubbish makes air pollution even worse. Many major industries are also responsible for the dirty air in the around cities. The fumes from iron, steel, chemical, and petrol production add particles to the air.
- The effects of air pollution range from mild headaches to death. The levels of pollution found in heavy traffic may cause headaches for loss of clear vision. Wherever coal and oil are used for fuel, fumes may kill trees and plants and cause metal to corrode. In some of the larger cities, these fumes endanger the live of human beings by contributing to lung diseases and causing early death.

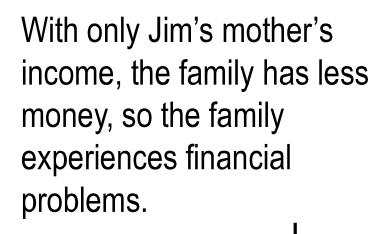




Jim's father has a bad temper, and he often beats Jim's mother and the kids. (family violence)

Jim's mother leaves Jim's father, taking the children with her.



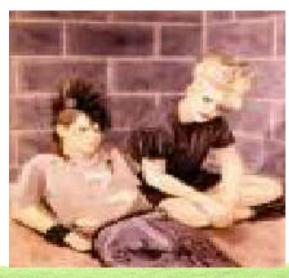




Jim's mother moves in with her boyfriend to help the family finances.



Jim feels unwanted in his new home and runs away.



a homeless child





Cause & Effect Relation

Positive effects (influence/impact): improve/benefit/advantage/merit/help/contribute

to/do good to/helpful/be conducive to

Negative effects:

<u>affect/hinder/prevent/damage/ruin/destroy/do</u> harm to/be

harmful to/be detrimental to



Topic Sentence



- -- It should tell what to be discussed in the paragraph;
- -- It should also indicate whether the focus of the paragraph is on the cause or the effect.
 - 1. If you stay with Tom for a day, you will know why he is gaining weight.

(cause)

2. Although the American Civil War turned many brothers and sisters into enemies, it solved some big political and economic problems of the country.

(effect)

3. A lack of essential vitamins can result in serious illness.

(effect)

4. There are three reasons why I want to stay in a small town.

(cause)

effects (results)

Therefore so as a result, consequently accordingly because of this Thus. hence for this reason result in

causes (reasons)

due to because of
owing to as a result of
on account of for
on the ground of
Through Because
since as
on the ground that





Children watch too much television;

(cause)

as a result, consequently, therefore, because of this, hence,

they lose
creativity.
 (effect)



Children

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are <u>SO</u> interested in television watch <u>SO</u> much television watch <u>SO</u> many television programs watch <u>SUCH</u> a lot of television are <u>SUCH</u> avid TV watchers
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(cause)

THAT they lose creativity.

(effect)



Watching too much television

Too much television

(cause)

is the reason for is responsible for leads to contributes to results in causes

loss of creative ability.

(effect)





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Children lose creative ability

(effect
)

they watch so much television.

(cause)
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Loss of creativity

results from follows from is due to is a result of (effect is a consequence of

watching too much television.

too much television. (cause)



How to write a paragraph by cause-effect

- The topic sentence of a cause-effect paragraph should indicate the focus of the paragraph: causes or effects.
- If the topic sentence states a cause, most probably, the paragraph will focus on effects; thus, the supporting sentences of the paragraph are to predict the effects. Otherwise, if the topic sentence states an effect, most probably, the paragraph will focus on the causes of the effect; then the supporting sentences of the paragraph is to examine the causes.



The concluding sentence usually summarizes the causes examined in the development, or restates the

The concluding sentence usually summarizes the causes examined in the development, or restates the topic sentence, or suggests what measures should be taken based on the causes or effects, or predicts what is going to happen in the future, or raises a related question after the analysis of the causes or effects.



The topic sentence indicates that the paragraph focuses on the causes.

Acc official statistics, more than 10,000 people in the country were killed in car accidents last year. The increasing rate of car accidents can be attributed to three general causes. Mechanical problems of cars, such as faulty brakes, bald tires, and flat tires, contribute to the high rate of car accidents. Environmental problems, such as blind corners, narrow streets, heavy fog, slippery roads cause a significant number of disasters. Such errors of human problems as excessive speed and drunken driving are considered the major factor of the fatal accidents. If drivers had bee, careful, many needless slaughters in car accidents could.

With a subjunctive sentence, the paragraph makes the suggestion that drivers should be careful.

Group discussion



- Which sentence is the topic sentence?
- Which is the focus of the paragraph, cause or effect?
- What are the main ideas of the supporting sentences?
- Which pattern does the paragraph belong to?
- What are the signal words expressing the causeeffect relationship?

· Inflation is an economic condition in which prices for consumer goods increase, and the value of money and purchasing power decreases. There are two major causes of inflation. First of all, excessive government spending could result in inflation. For example, in order to finance a war or carry out social programs, the government may spend more money than it has received through taxes. In order to offset this deficit, the Treasury Department can simply expand the money supply by issuing more paper money to meet the debts. This increase in the money supply will cause the value of the dollar to automatically decrease. The second cause of inflation occurs when the money supply increases faster than the supply of goods. If people have more money, they will run out to buy popular goods like televisions and computers, and then shortage of goods results in price increases.

Reminders



- Do not over-simplify causes/effects.
- Remember sequence is not always causation.
- Distinguish between direct and indirect causes and effects and between major and minor causes and effects (organization).
- Do not omit links in a chain of causes and effects.
- Be objective and support the analysis with solid, factual evidence.

Phenomenon & Essence



Different causes, different effects







- 作文号为: 728529 提取码为447
- Postponement of Retirement Age

With the improvement of living standards and medical services, now people have a longer life expectancy than before. In this connection, some people propose that our retirement age should be postponed. Do you agree with this idea?

