Cause and Effect Essay Outline

1. Introduction
   1. Attention grabber- ask a question, provide a personal story, give statistics, use a famous quote, challenge the reader, state an interesting fact

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* 1. Thesis Statement- write a brief description of the causes and effects you are writing about (you will need three)

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1. Body Paragraph One
   1. Topic Sentence- Inform the reader of what the cause(s) is/are (you must include a **transition** in this sentence)- restating the first part of your thesis

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* 1. Supporting Sentences- include details and support your effect, what do you mean, why is it important, details, explanation

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* 1. Closing Sentence- restates the topic sentence

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1. Body Paragraph Two
   1. Topic Sentence- Inform the reader of what the cause(s) is/are (you must include a **transition** in this sentence)- restating the second part of your thesis

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* 1. Supporting Sentences- include details and support your effect, what do you mean, why is it important, details, explanation

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* 1. Closing Sentence- restates the topic sentence

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1. Body Paragraph Three
   1. Topic Sentence- Inform the reader of what the cause(s) is/are (you must include a **transition** in this sentence)- restating the third part of your thesis

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* 1. Supporting Sentences- include details and support your effect, what do you mean, why is it important, details, explanation

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* 1. Closing Sentence- restates the topic sentence

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1. Conclusion
   1. Restate your thesis statement using different words (use a **transition** word that signals the end)

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* 1. Sum up the main ideas of the essay in one or two sentences

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* 1. Ending remark- make an evaluation or judgment about the topic **(without using “I”)**, leave a lasting impression, or ask a question, offer a challenge, or predict the future

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Informational Writing

Write About Cause & Effect Relationships

Write about the effects that peer pressure has on students.

Tips and Helpful Hints

* Writing with a clear, concise thesis statement that introduces the subject and clearly states what you are trying to say about the causes and effects. What do you want your readers to know or accept about the causes and effects? Your thesis should tell the reader exactly what to expect.
* Provide a brief description of the causes and effects that you are writing about in the introduction. Also provide your thesis statement in the introduction.
* Decide on how to organize your essay. Which is most important: time or level of importance? If time is more important, choose chronological order; it is a good choice for distinguishing between immediate and remote causes and effects. Once you choose an organizational method, it is highly important to stick to it. Do not move back and forth.
* Use words like “probably,” “most likely,” and other similar words when and phrases when writing about cause and effect.
* Use clear transitional words and phrases so that readers can follow the organizational plan that you have chosen.
* Be sure to explain the relationship between the causes and effects fully throughout your essay. Every word of the essay should directly support the ideas laid out in the thesis statement.
* Write a conclusion that sums up all of the ideas presented in the essay. Do not bring up new ideas in the conclusion—that is, ones that have not been discussed previously in the essay. Consider what you want your audience to get out of the essay.
* Avoid using contractions in your writing such as don’t, won’t, isn’t, etc.
* Use a variety of words and phrases, try not to repeat the same word over and over.

Words to avoid:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * I believe * I feel * I think * In my opinion | * This paper will be about * These are * Those are * There are | * A lot or a lot * Is like * Is when * Is because |

Cause-and-Effect Revision Essay

* Do I include an introduction that clearly states the cause-and-effect relationship?
* Do I use important details and examples to explain at least one effect?
* Do I use language effectively to help the reader understand the cause-and-effect relationship?
* Do I use a logical order to move from one idea to the next?
* Do I include a conclusion that helps the reader understand the cause-and –effect relationship?
* Do I spell, punctuate, and capitalize my writing to help readers understand?