

Cause and Effect Essay Outline

Introduction

- **Hook**
 - The opening sentence grabs the reader's attention and signals the topic in a clear, engaging way.
- **Background**
 - A brief overview gives readers enough context to understand why the cause and effect relationship matters.
- **Thesis Statement**
 - The thesis identifies the main cause and the main effect the essay will analyze and sets the direction for the entire paper.

Body Paragraph: Cause 1

- **Topic Sentence**
 - The paragraph begins by naming the first major cause and establishing the main idea of the section.
- **Explanation of Cause**
 - A fuller explanation shows how the cause works, why it appears, and what conditions lead to it.
- **Evidence or Detail**
 - Facts, examples, or observations strengthen the explanation and make the cause more convincing.
- **Link to Effect**
 - A final connecting sentence shows how this cause produces a specific effect and moves the discussion forward.

Body Paragraph: Cause 2

- **Topic Sentence**
 - The paragraph opens by identifying the second major cause and signaling a shift to another contributing factor.
- **Explanation of Cause**
 - The explanation clarifies why this cause matters and how it fits into the broader chain of events.
- **Evidence or Detail**
 - Supporting information adds credibility and shows the cause in action.
- **Link to Effect**
 - A clear link guides the reader toward the outcome that results from this cause.

Body Paragraph: Effect 1

- **Topic Sentence**
 - The first major effect is introduced at the start of the paragraph.
- **Explanation of Effect**
 - The explanation shows how the effect develops from the causes and why it appears in a predictable way.
- **Evidence or Detail**
 - Research findings, data, or brief examples illustrate the effect and reinforce the reasoning.

Body Paragraph: Effect 2

- **Topic Sentence**
 - The second effect is presented to continue the chain of consequences created by the causes.
- **Explanation of Effect**
 - The explanation describes how the effect unfolds and why it has significance in the larger picture.
- **Evidence or Detail**
 - Supporting details demonstrate the effect clearly and make the analysis more concrete.

Conclusion

- **Restated Thesis**
 - The central cause and effect relationship is rephrased to remind the reader of the main point.
- **Summary of Main Points**
 - Key causes and effects are briefly reviewed to reinforce the structure of the essay.
- **Final Thought**
 - A closing idea leaves the reader with a clear takeaway or broader insight that gives the essay a strong finish.