

Smart, Creative and Entrepreneurial



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ESSAY WRITING

SRI LESTARI, MA

SESSION 8

CAUSE AND EFFECT ESSAY: OUTLINING



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Students are able to understand the cause/effect essay
- Students are able to organise the structure of **cause and effect paragraphs**
- Students are able to write **an outline** of a cause and effect essay.

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WHAT ARE CAUSE AND EFFECT ESSAYS?

- A cause and effect essay looks at **the reasons** (or causes) for something, then discusses **the results** (or effects). For this reason, cause and effect essays are sometimes referred to as **reason and result essays**.
- It explains **why** something happen

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WHAT ARE CAUSE AND EFFECT ESSAYS?

- It discusses the **causes** (reasons) for something, the **effects** (results), or both **causes and effects**. See the examples:
 - Discuss the causes and effects of global warming. ['cause and effect' essay]
 - Explain the high death rate in Indonesia. ['causes' only essay]
 - Discuss the Corona virus and its effects on the economy ['effects' only essay]

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WHAT ARE CAUSE AND EFFECT ESSAYS?

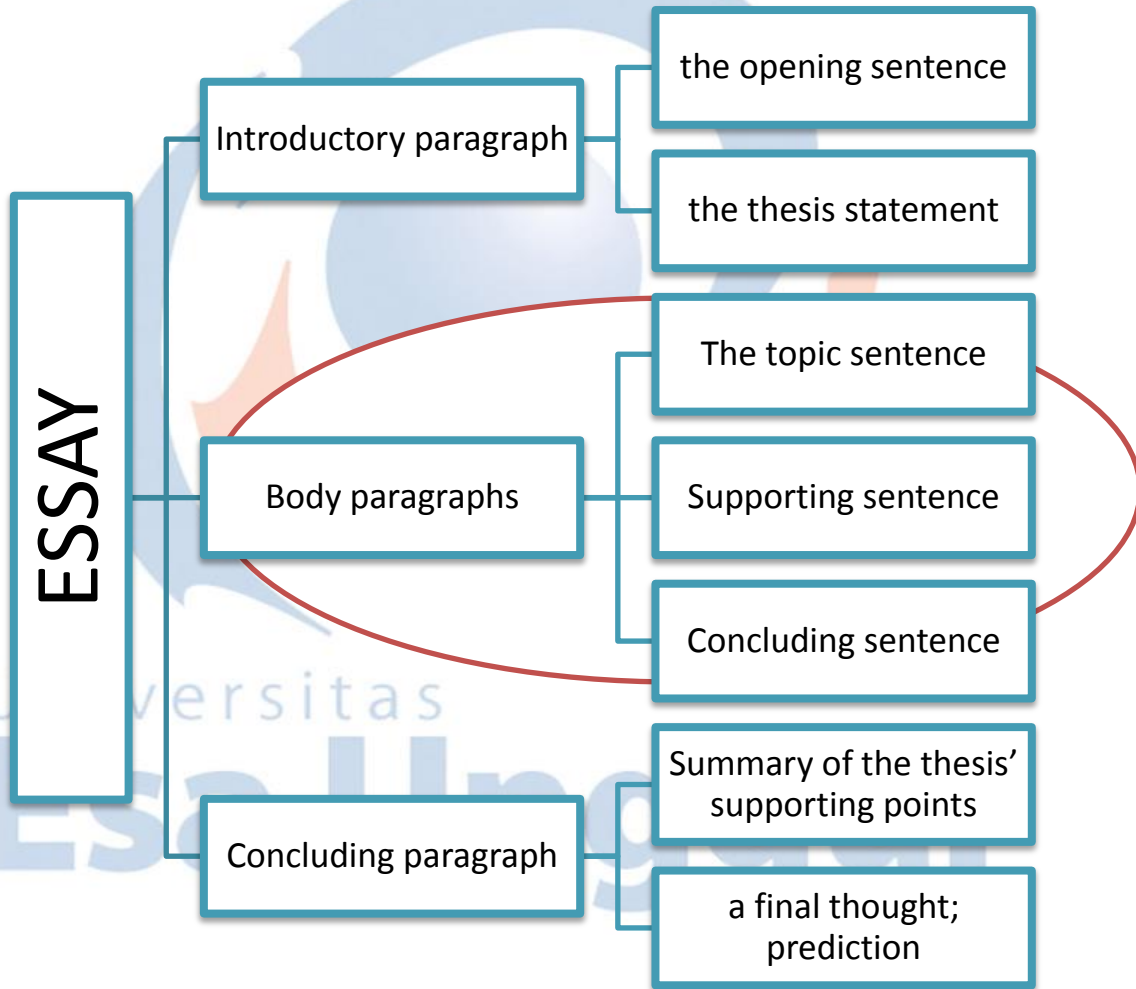
- Cause or effect essays begin with topics that are usually **situations, events, or problems**. Work **logically**, you need to **analyze** before you write. You **break apart** your topic, and you **examine** its causes or effects:
 - **A cause** is an action or situation that provokes some result or effect—it is a stimulus. Useful synonyms for cause include reason (why), root, factor, source, origin, and basis.
 - **An effect** is the result of some cause, stimulus, or event—it is an outcome. Useful synonyms for effect include consequence, result, upshot, and conclusion.

WHAT ARE CAUSE AND EFFECT ESSAYS?

- Cause/effect writing involves understanding **the logic of cause and effect.**
- It involves **analysis** as you examine either the causes or effects of some situation or event.
- It also requires **a knowledge of the expressions and vocabulary** used to express causes and effects.
- A student needs to know how to structure a cause/effect essay.

THE ESSAY STRUCTURE

What make cause/effect essay different from other essays is **the body paragraph organisation**



THE STRUCTURE OF CAUSE AND EFFECT ESSAY

- There are two main ways to structure a cause and effect essay: a **block** or a **chain** structure.
- For the *block* structure, all of the causes are listed first, and all of the effects are listed afterwards.
- For the *chain* structure, each cause is followed immediately by the effect. Usually that effect will then be the cause of the next effect, which is why this structure is called 'chain'.
- Both types of structure have their merits.

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THE STRUCTURE OF CAUSE AND EFFECT ESSAY

BLOCK ORGANISATION

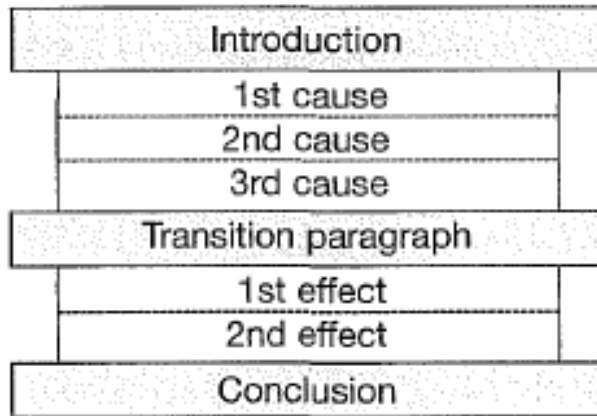
- A transition paragraph → a short paragraph that separates one major section from another major section
- discuss mainly (or only) causes or mainly (or only) effects

CHAIN ORGANISATION

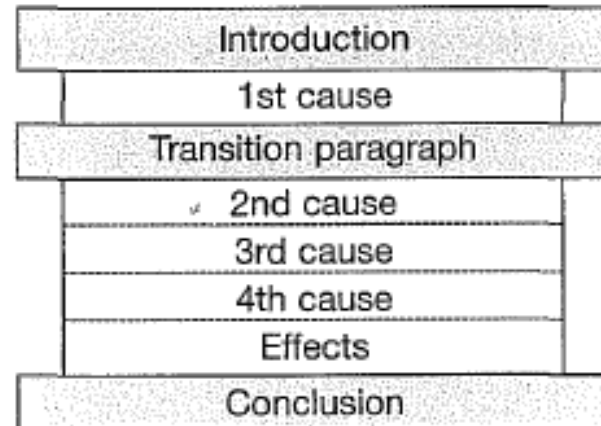
- causes and effects are linked to each other in a chain. One event causes a second event, which in turn causes a third event, which in turn causes a fourth event, and so on.

BLOCK ORGANIZATION PATTERN

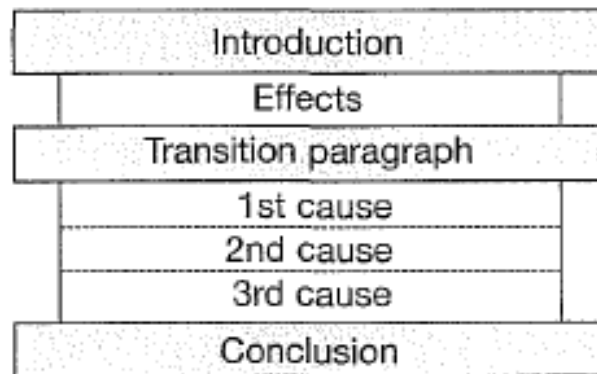
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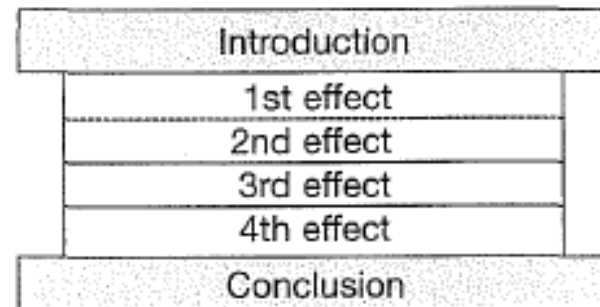
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BLOCK ORGANIZATION PATTERN

- In block organization, you first discuss **all the causes as a block** (in one, two, three, or more paragraphs, depending on the number of causes). Then you discuss **all the effects together as a block**. You can discuss either causes or effects first. Of course, you can also discuss only causes or only effects.
- In block organization, a short paragraph often separates one major section from another major section. This paragraph is called **a transition paragraph**. Its purpose is to conclude one section and introduce another section. You do not always have to write a transition paragraph, but it is helpful when your topic is long and complex.
- Essays that discuss mainly (or only) causes or mainly (or only) effects might have a transition paragraph between blocks of different kinds of causes or between blocks of different kinds of effects

BLOCK ORGANIZATION PATTERN

EXERCISE

- Fill in the boxes to show the block organizational pattern of the essay. Write in the topic of each paragraph and tell whether it is a cause or an effect. The first two boxes have been filled in for you.

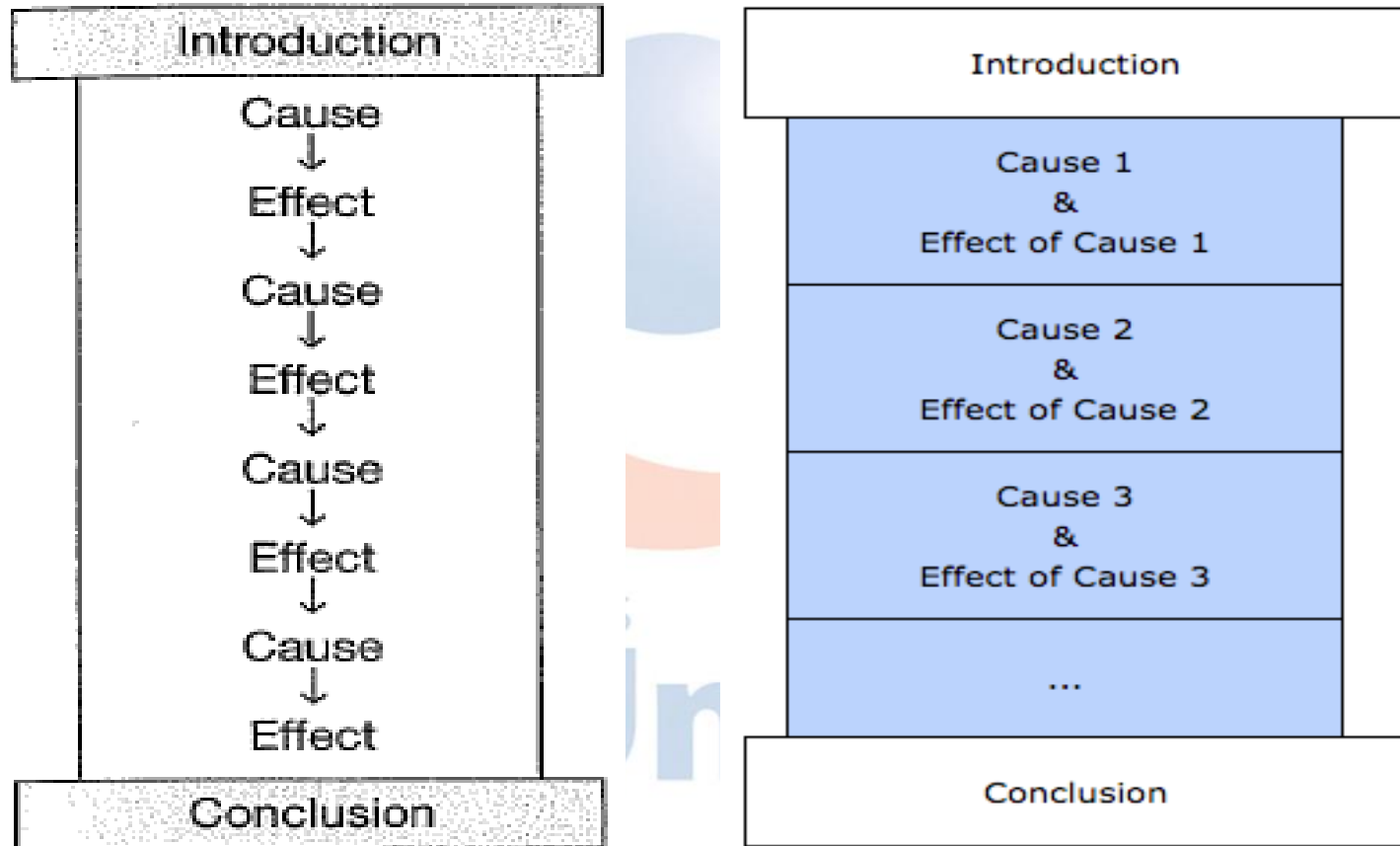
INTRODUCTION

Thesis statement: They have found that shyness in an individual can result from both biological and environmental factors.

1st cause: genetics

CONCLUSION

CHAIN ORGANIZATION PATTERN



CHAIN ORGANIZATION PATTERN

- In this pattern, causes and effects are linked to each other in a chain. One event causes a second event, which in turn causes a third event, which in turn causes a fourth event, and so on. Each new cause and its effect are links in a chain.
- Chain organization usually works better than block organization when the causes and effects are too closely linked to be separated.

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BLOCK OR CHAIN?

- **A chain pattern is usually easier** if the causes and effects are very closely **interrelated**. You might use a chain pattern to write about the causes of a particular disease or phenomenon in nature such as a thunderstorm or a rainbow.
- **The block pattern is usually easier with** larger, complex topics such as global warming or homelessness.
- Sometimes you will want to use a combination of block and chain organization.

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DEVELOPING A CAUSE&EFFECT ESSAY

INTRODUCTION

- the first sentence engage the reader's interest
- the middle sentences gives the background information)
- A thesis statement states two causes that lead up to the event or situation or why it is important to understand the causes of the event

BODY PARAGRAPHS

- body paragraphs support the thesis statement by explaining the causes in detail
- Each paragraph starts with a topic sentence

CONCLUSION

- restates the thesis statement; summarize the main causes and their relationship to the event.

BRAINSTORMING: CLUSTERING INFORMATION

- The process of grouping ideas that are similar so that the writer can develop the information into a thesis statement, topic sentences and supporting details.

CAUSES ----->	EVENT OR SITUATION
a strong body no injuries fast decision cooperation with other player stress management	becoming a successful professional athlete

MENTAL CLARITY	PHYSICAL STRENGTH
stress management	a strong body

DEVELOPING IDEA INTO OUTLINING

- Topic: the causes of successful professional athlete
- Thesis statement: the factors that determine if an individual can have a successful career in professional sports include physical ability and mental clarity.

BODY PARAGRAPH 1

In order to become a professional athlete, a person must be athletically gifted:

- a strong body
- speed
- no injuries

BODY PARAGRAPH 2

Another factor that contributes to a successful career in sports is a strong mind.

- manages stress
- make fast strategic decision
- cooperate with team members

BRAINSTORMING & OUTLINING

- Make an outline for a cause and effect essay.
- Brainstorm to get the idea then use it to write the outline. You can use the chart below:
 - Introduction
 - General statement/background information:
 - Thesis statement :
 - Body paragraph 1: One cause of/effect o/reason why
 - Topic sentences:
 - Supporting sentences
 - Body paragraph 2: Another cause of/effect of
 - Body paragraph 3: Another cause of/effect of
 - Conclusion
 - Restatement of thesis
 - Summary and or comment

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- <https://www.eapfoundation.com/writing/essays/>
- <https://eslflow.com/cause-effect-writing/>

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THANK YOU

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