

英文寫作基礎  
W9

Chapter 6: Cause/Effect Essay

Fundamentals of English Writing  
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## In our daily lives...

- Jeremy Lin's success is mainly due to his hard work.
- He refused to get back together with her, so she scratched his car.
- The company's stock price fluctuated because the investors were unconfident.
- Increasing carbon dioxide emissions result in rising global temperatures.

# In our daily lives...

- Jeremy Lin's success is mainly **due to** his hard work.
- The company's stock price fluctuated **because** the investors were unconfident.
- He refused to get back together with her, **so** she scratched his car.
- Increasing carbon dioxide emissions **result in** rising global temperatures.

## Other words and phrases:

therefore, thus, consequently, since, as, for  
a result of, result from, cause, lead to

**Pause the video  
for 3 minutes.**

# Examples

- Jeremy Lin's success **results** mainly **from** his hard work.
- He refused to get back together with her. **Thus**, she scratched his car.
- The company's stock price fluctuated **as a result of** the investors' lack of confidence.
- Increasing carbon dioxide emissions **cause** global temperatures **to** rise.

- Why did it happen? What are its *possible* reasons?
- Which reasons are more important?



**Causes**

*Event/Phenomenon* 



- What are its perceivable results?
- What are its *possible* future consequences?
- Which consequences are positive?
- Which are negative?

**Effects**



Lin's ethnic and cultural heritage



His educational background



The “Linsanity Phenomenon”

His religious belief and personality

# ***Cause-Effect: Brainstorming***

***Phenomenon: The rise of Facebook***



***Effects on our lives***

**Pause the video for 3 minutes.**

# The rise of Facebook

## *Effects on our lives:*

Cause!

Rephrase this

➤ ~~It creates an interesting way to interact with our friends~~

➤ ~~It is more fun and convenient than other social networks~~

➤ We make new friends and find old ones more quickly

➤ We obtain diverse information and knowledge more easily

➤ It puts our identity and privacy at risk

Under one  
category

➤ We waste a lot of time updating personal profile

➤ Some may have “Facebook Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder”

➤ It corrupts the way we show concern for and gain concern from other people



# ***Block Organization 1***

## **Effects of Facebook's rise on our lives:**

### **Positive effects**

- *It facilitates the development of interpersonal networks*
- *We gain diverse information and knowledge more easily*

### **Transition Paragraph**

### **Negative effects**      (ascending emphatic order)

- *It puts our identity and privacy at risk*
- *It corrupts the way we show concern for and gain concern from other people*
- *It causes some users to become “less free”*

# Block Organization 2

## Facebook's Rise :

### Causes

- *A need for a more convenient platform*
- *The influences of media*

### Transition Paragraph

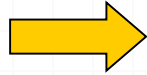
### Effects

- *It facilitates the development of interpersonal networks*
- *It puts our identity and privacy at risk*
- *It causes some users to become “less free”*



# *Chain Organization* 📖

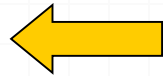
Facebook rises as  
a popular social  
network



One habitually looks  
at one's friends'  
updates, hits "Likes,"  
and responds to their  
messages



Feelings of  
deprivation of  
freedom result



One is increasingly  
drawn to such a  
routine that one  
becomes conditioned  
by this medium

# Cause-Effect: Tips

- Carefully **distinguish** the causes of an event from its effects
- Be wary of the post **hoc fallacy**; ensure that the causal relationship can be evidentially supported
- Use **hedged expressions** where appropriate
  - E.g., *may, might, should, could, seem, appear, sometimes, probably*  
*Smoking cannabis causes schizophrenia.*  
*Smoking cannabis **may** cause schizophrenia.*
- Use appropriate **transition signals**

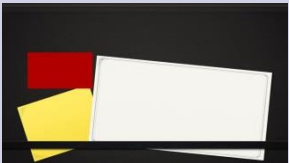

# Exercise: Textbook, p.117-

## 19





After reading the model essay, answer the questions on p.119.

- Identify the hedged expressions used in this essay.
- Identify the transition words and phrases used in this essay.

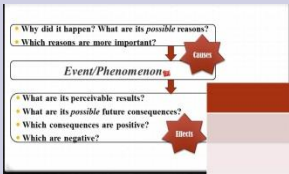

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10, 11, 12, 13	<p><b>Block Organization 2</b> </p> <p>Facebook's Rise:</p> <p><b>Causes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A need for a more convenient platform</li> <li>The influence of media</li> </ul> <p><b>Transition Paragraph</b></p> <p><b>Effects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It facilitates the development of interpersonal networks</li> <li>It puts our identity and privacy at risk</li> <li>It causes some users to become "lame" free</li> </ul> <p><b>Chain Organization</b> </p> <p>Facebook rises as a popular social network → One habitually looks at one's friends' updates, hits "Like," and responds to their messages</p> <p>Feelings of deprivation of freedom result ← One is increasingly drawn to such a routine that one becomes conditioned by this medium</p> <p><b>Cause-Effect: Tips</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carefully <b>distinguish</b> the causes of an event from its effects</li> <li>Be wary of the <b>post hoc fallacy</b>; ensure that the causal relationship can be <b>evidentially</b> supported</li> <li>Use <b>hedged expressions</b> where appropriate           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>E.g., <i>may, might, should, could, seem, appear, sometimes, probably</i></li> <li><i>Smoking cannabis causes schizophrenia</i></li> <li><i>Smoking cannabis may cause schizophrenia</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>Use appropriate <b>transition signals</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Exercise: Textbook, p.117-</b> </p> <p><b>19</b></p> <p>After reading the model essay, answer the questions on p.19.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify the hedged expressions used in this essay.</li> <li>Identify the transition words and phrases used in this essay.</li> </ul>		<p>Oshima, A. and A. Hogue. (2014). <i>Longman Academic Writing Series</i> (5th Edition). Pearson Longman. P. 102, 106, 109</p> <p>This work is used subject to the fair use doctrine of Article 46, 52, 65 Taiwan Copyright Act.</p>

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