



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE**

Academic English

Section 6: Cause and Effect

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Cause

Event or action that makes something happen

Why did this happen?

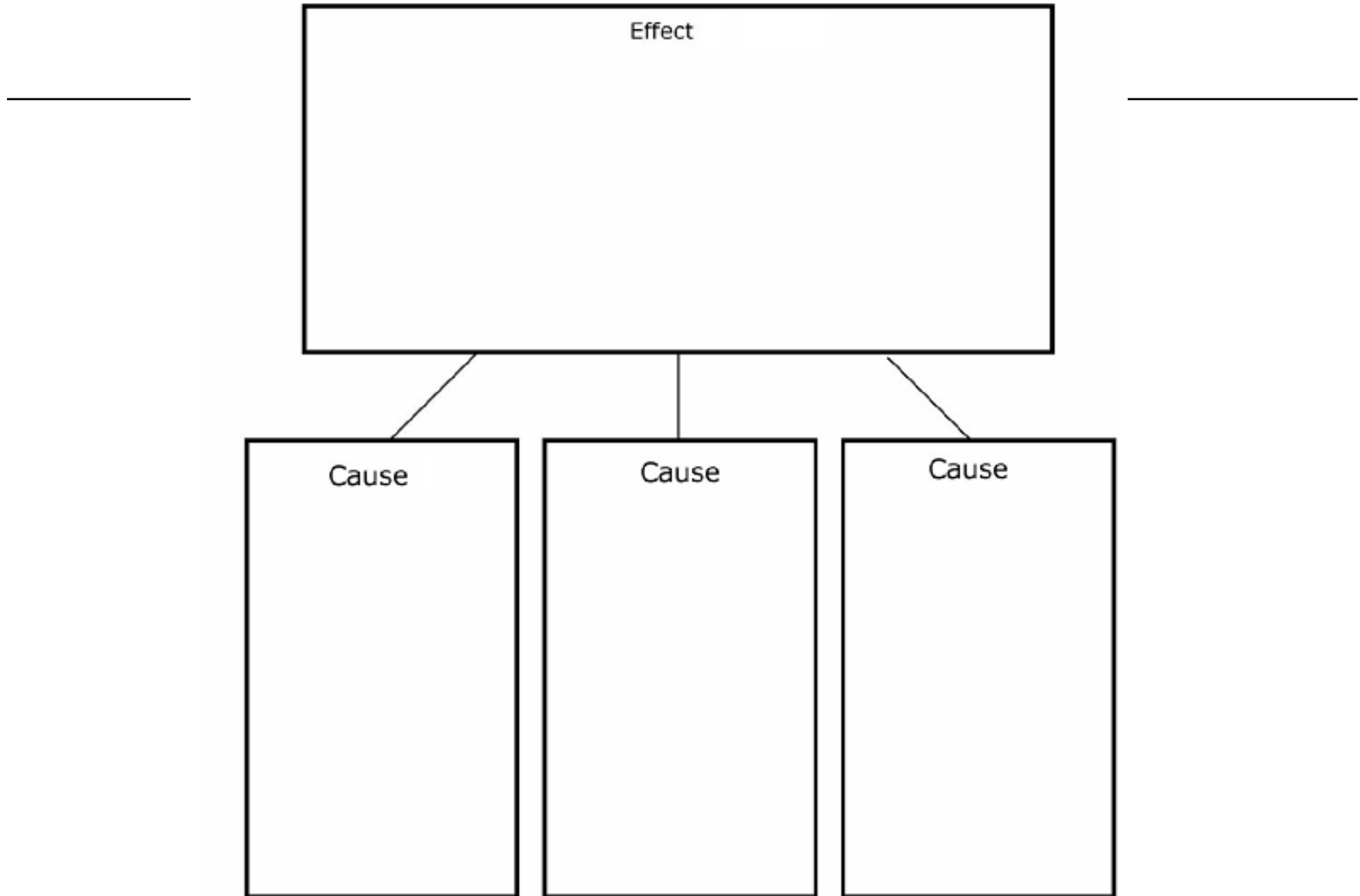


Effect

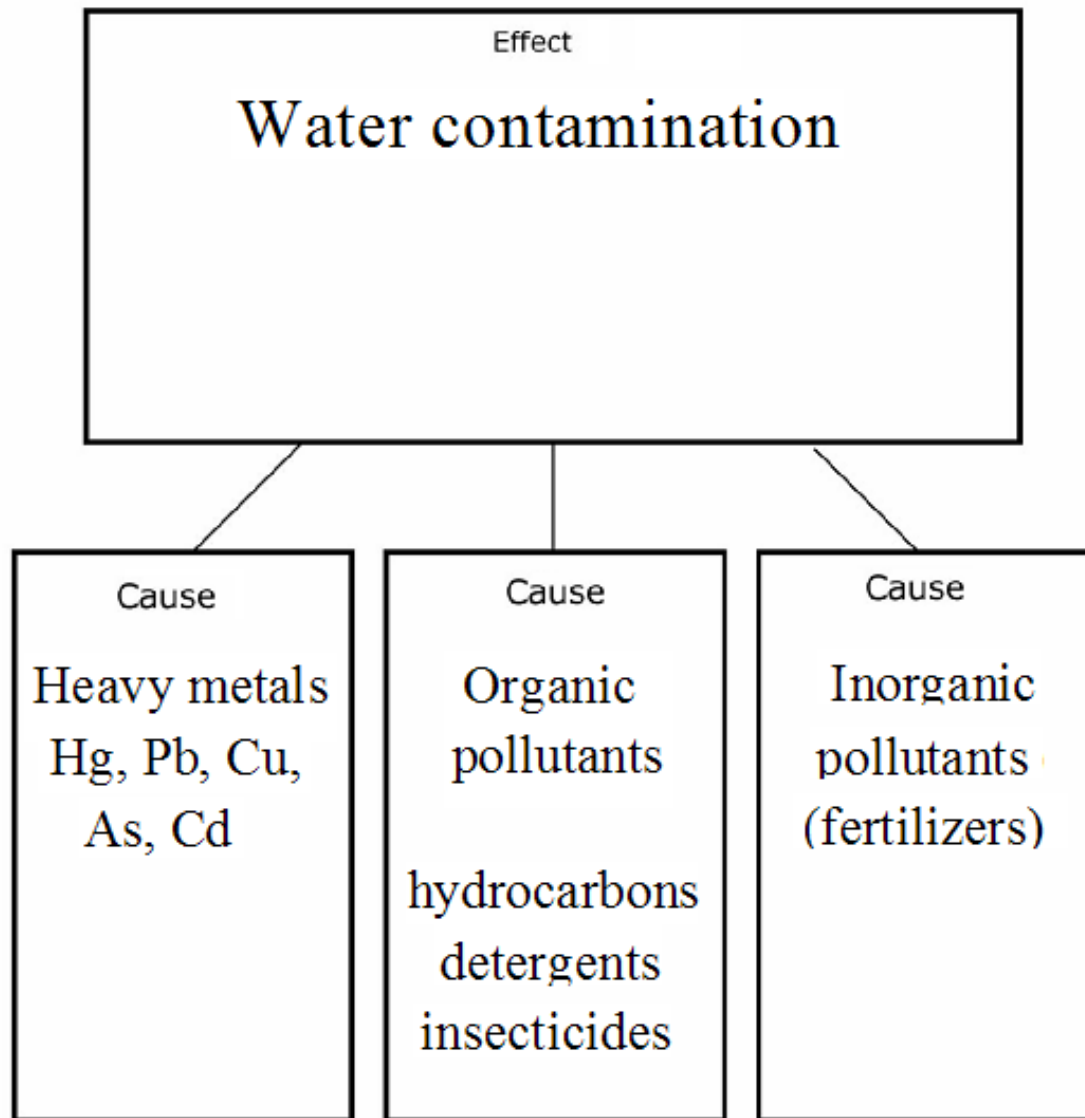
What happens as a result of an action or event

What happened?

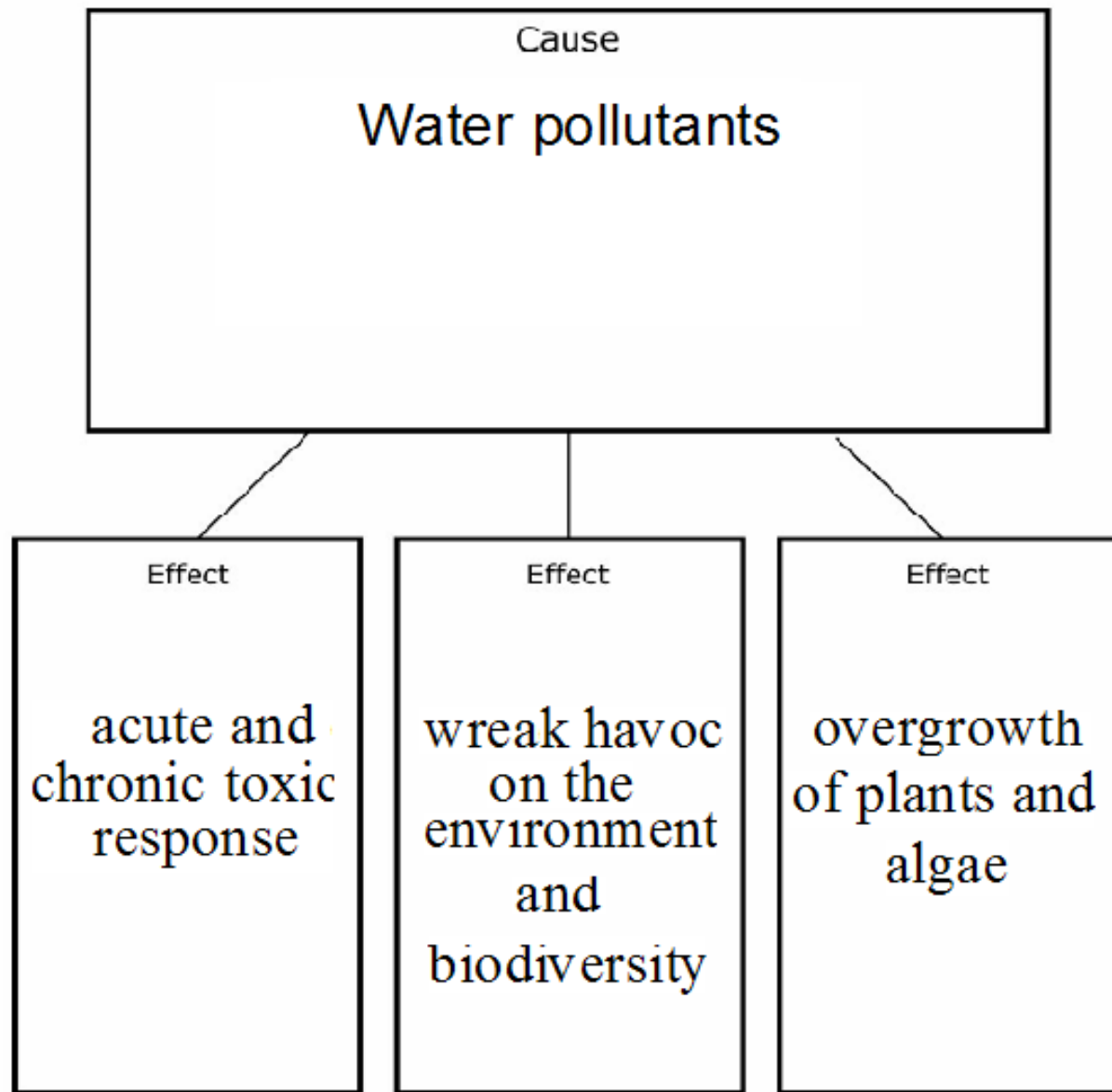
Cause/Effect:



Cause/Effect:



Cause/Effect:



Cause and Effect Essay Structure

Block

Introduction

Causes

Cause 1

Cause 2

Cause 3

Effects

Effect 1

Effect 2

Effect 3

Conclusion

Chain

Introduction

Cause

Effect 1

Cause

Effect 2

Cause

Effect 3

Conclusion

Cause and effect vocabulary

Because	The economy is in recession because the banks crashed.
Because of	The economy is in recession because of the failure of the banks.
As a result	Demand in the labour market has fallen and as a result unemployment has risen.
As a result of	Unemployment has risen as a (direct) result of a fall in demand in the labour market.
As a consequence	More and more roads are being built and as a consequence air pollution is rising.
As a consequence of	International cooperation has improved as a consequence of globalisation
Thanks to	Literacy rates have improved thanks to better primary education.
Due to	Many commentators believe that the increase in crime is due to rising poverty levels.

Prepositional phrases indicating causality

200,000 people per year become deaf

owing to
because of
as a result of
as a consequence of

a lack of iodine.

Sentence connectors indicating causality

If undernourished children do survive to become adults, they have decreased learning ability.

Therefore,
Consequently,
Because of this,
As a result (of this),

when they grow up, it will probably be difficult for them to find work.

Verbs

Cause	Violence in films has probably caused crime to rise.
Lead to	Intensive farming has led to many smallholders becoming unemployed
Result in	Poor diet and lack of exercise has resulted in a generation who will die younger than their parents.

Make	Certain stars from the world of entertainment deserve their salaries as they make many people very happy.
Create	Excess consumption of fossil fuels has helped to create many of the environmental problems today.
Change	Mass immigration has undoubtedly changed many societies.
Affect	The problems of air pollution affect the quality of life in many parts of the world.



Verbs indicating causality

Lack of protein may cause mental disability.
 can lead to
 can result in

<http://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/explaining-cause-and-effect/>

More verbs

Other verbs:

Give rise to	Is attributed to	accounts for
bring about	affect/influence	trigger/induce/provoke
contribute to	stimulate	generate
facilitate	determine	stem from/derive from

Parental attitude largely **determines** how well a child adapts to school. [is the main factor affecting]

The teacher **motivated** them to work hard. [made them want to do something positive]

The flow of traffic through the town is **facilitated** by the one-way system. [made easier]

The speech **provoked** an angry response. [caused, usually something negative]

The explosion was **triggered** by the heat. [started, usually something sudden and negative]

The tilting of the earth on its axis **accounts for** the change in the seasons. [explains]

Sid's determination **springs/stems from** his desire to improve the world. [is the result of]

The country's victory **gave rise to** a new mood in society.

The mobile phone **contributed to** the information revolution. [was one factor influencing]

The child was given drugs to **stimulate** growth. [cause something to develop or function]

The exhibition **generated** a lot of interest. [aroused, caused to exist]

The drugs may **induce** nausea. [cause, often used in a medical context]

McCarthy M. and O'Donnel F. (2008) Academic Vocabulary in Use. Cambridge University Press.

Nouns

Cause	One cause of this problem is a fall in educational standards.
Reason	There are a variety of reasons why this has happened/for this
Effect	Falling educational standards have had a variety of negative effects .
Result	One positive result of this would be better international cooperation.

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More nouns

other nouns:

chain reaction
precedent for

outcome to
origin

impact on
source of

Nouns indicating causality

One *reason* why Xs have declined is that ...

The most likely *causes* of X are poor diet and lack of exercise.

The *causes* of X have been the subject of intense debate within ...

A *consequence* of vitamin A deficiency is blindness.

X can have profound health *consequences* for older people.

Physical activity is an important *factor* in maintaining fitness.

Many other medications have an *influence* on cholesterol levels.

Causality and hedging

- A fundamental contributor to the Green revolution has been the development and application of pesticides for the control of a wide variety of pests that would otherwise diminish the quantity and quality of food produce.
- There is overwhelming evidence that agricultural use of pesticides has a major impact on water quality and leads to serious environmental consequences.
- The largest usage tends to be associated with a small number of pesticide products.
- Irrigated agriculture usually requires modification of the hydrological regime which, in turn, creates habitat that can be conducive to breeding of insects such as mosquitoes which are responsible for a variety of vector-borne diseases.
- Tetrachlorohydroquinone, a toxic metabolite of the biocide pentachlorophenol, was found to produce "significant and dose-dependent DNA damage".

Adapted from <http://www.fao.org/docrep/w2598e/w2598e07.htm>

References

- McCarthy M. and O'Donnel F. (2008) Academic Vocabulary in Use. Cambridge University Press.
- <http://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/causes.htm>
- <http://www.dcielts.com/ielts-vocabulary/key-ielts-vocabulary-cause-and-effect-1/>
- <http://writing.itu.edu.tr/ce1.pdf>

End of Section

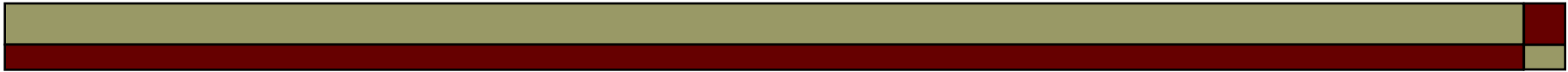


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<https://opencourses.uoc.gr/courses/course/view.php?id=349>.



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