

CAUSE AND EFFECT ESSAY

Instructions

Choose one of the following topics:

Write a 3-4 page essay in which you examine the causes of why families today are having fewer children. What do you think are the reasons for this?

or

Write a 3-4 page essay in which you discuss the effects of reality TV on our society. What are some things that are happening as a result of watching reality TV?

Rubric

	Criteria Met	Criteria Almost Met	Criteria Not Met
Fundamentals	15 pts	8 pts	0 pts
Directions and Format	Submitted on time,* uses a readable file type (.pdf), meets the page minimum, follows the MLA format, and responds to the writing prompt.		
Thesis	Clearly states the thesis, and the thesis remains the controlling idea throughout the paper.		
Essay Structure	Essay organization is appropriate for the writing prompt. An introduction provides an overview, body paragraphs support the thesis, and a conclusion brings a satisfactory close. Transitions connect ideas.		
Paragraph Development	Body paragraphs have a single focus and provide adequate and specific details.		
Audience and Style	Uses the appropriate tone and vocabulary for the audience. Uses an appropriate and consistent point of view.		
Grammar	Uses a variety of sentence structures and does not contain distracting grammar errors.		
Focal Points	30 pts	15 pts	0 pts
Cause and Effect	Shows the cause and/or effect relationship by using clear organization, choice of support, and use of signal phrases.		
Examples	Provides extended or short examples that are relevant to the main idea, explaining causes and/or effects.		
150 points possible			

* Late assignments will receive a 15-point reduction each day the assignment is late.

**Plagiarized papers will receive a 0, and the student may be referred to the campus disciplinary officer depending on the plagiarism severity.