

# Cause and Effect Essays

## Selecting and Restricting a Topic



# 1. Choose the topic



***Not all topics are created equal.* - Ann Newman, 2016**

- a. Choose a topic approved by your instructor.
- b. Choose a topic that interests you.
- c. Choose a topic that lends itself to cause or effect development.
- d. Choose a topic that can be covered in 500-1,000 words.

# 1. Choose the topic

## 1.a. Choose a topic approved by your instructor.

1. What are the effects of the feminist movement on the modern concept of relationships?
- ~~2. Are the Masons part of a conspiracy to take over the world?~~
3. What are the effects of being brought up by a single parent?
4. How are children affected by the fame and wealth of their parents?
5. How does food deprivation affect children?
6. What are the causes of divorce in the modern world?
7. What has caused the increased number of adoptions in the modern world?
8. How does globalization affect the spread of infectious diseases?
9. What causes people to seek alternative ways of treatment instead of Western medicine?
10. How does an increasing everyday use of high-tech gadgets affect human health?
11. What are the effects of the acceptance of euthanasia on society?
12. What are the effects of playing videogames on human brain activity?
13. How does mass media affect teen relationships in a modern world?
14. How did the Internet change our world perspective?



# 1. Choose the topic



## 1.b. Choose a topic that interests you.

1. ~~What are the effects of the feminist movement on the modern concept of relationships?~~
2. ~~How does the 'one child policy' affect child-parent relationships in China?~~
3. ~~What are the effects of being brought up by a single parent?~~
4. ~~How are children affected by the fame and wealth of their parents?~~
5. ~~How does food deprivation affect children?~~
6. **What are the causes of divorce in the modern world?**
7. ~~What has caused the increased number of adoptions in the modern world?~~
8. ~~How does globalization affect the spread of infectious diseases?~~
9. ~~What causes people to seek alternative ways of treatment instead of Western medicine?~~
10. ~~How does an increasing everyday use of high-tech gadgets affect human health?~~
11. ~~What are the effects of the acceptance of euthanasia on society?~~
12. ~~What are the effects of playing videogames on human brain activity?~~
13. ~~How does mass media affect teen relationships in a modern world?~~
14. ~~How did the Internet change our world perspective?~~

# 1. Choose the topic



## 1.c. Choose a topic that lends itself to cause or effect development.

- a. — How to learn Chinese.
- b. Causes of divorce in the modern world.

# 1. Choose the topic



## 1.d. Choose a topic that can be covered in 500-1,000 words.

1. ~~Throughout history, ten reasons led to dress codes for women.~~
2. Three major reasons have led to divorce in modern society.

# 2. Restrict the topic



***The more restrictions you have, the easier anything is to write. - Stephen Sondheim***

- a. Focus on one aspect of the topic.
- b. Focus on one time period.
- c. Narrow the topic to one geographical area, if possible.
- d. Narrow the topic to one specific problem or question.

# 2. Restrict the topic

## 2.a. Focus on one aspect of the topic.

The effects of euthanasia



The effects on euthanasia on society





# 2. Restrict the topic

## 2.b. Focus on one time period.

The effects of euthanasia on society



The effects of euthanasia on society during the past ten years



# 2. Restrict the topic

## 2.c. Narrow the topic to one geographical area.

The effects of euthanasia on society during the past ten years



The effects of euthanasia on Dutch society during the past ten years



# 2. Restrict the topic

## 2.d. Narrow the topic to one specific problem or question.

The effects of euthanasia on Dutch society during the past ten years



The unintended effects of euthanasia on Dutch society during the past ten years



# 3. Writing the thesis sentence



*A thesis is a one-sentence summary of an essay.*

- a. It should be no longer than one sentence.
- b. It should include the specific topic.
- c. Using only one to three words for each main point, It should list the causes or effects.
- d. The verb should indicate cause or effect.

The legalization of euthanasia in the Netherlands has led to several major unintended effects on its society during the past ten years: increasing brutalization, involuntary euthanasia, and a duty to die.