## **The Writing Center**

## Cause-and-Effect Essay

- The cause-and-effect essay analyzes the causes, or the effects, or the causes <u>and</u> effects of an event or situation.
- <u>Causes</u> are reasons for an event or situation.
- **<u>Effects</u>** are the results of an event or situation.



## Essay Structures

- These are possible structures. The number of body paragraphs in an essay will, of course, vary, depending on the length of the assignment or the aspects to be analyzed.
- Remember that a good essay has a point to prove, which is usually stated explicitly in the thesis.
- A good essay also uses its <u>body paragraphs</u> to provide <u>support for that point</u> in the form of reasons, examples, facts, statistics, personal experience, or the opinions of experts

Essay That Examines	Essay That Examines	Essay That Examines
Causes	Effects	Causes and Effects
Intro paragraph	Intro paragraph	Intro paragraph
that ends with thesis	that ends with thesis	that ends with thesis
Cause	Effect	Cause
#1	#1	#1
Cause	Effect	Cause
#2	#2	#2
Cause	Effect	Effect
#3	#3	#1
Cause	Effect	Effect
#4	#4	#2
Conclusion	Conclusion	Conclusion