

## Cause and Effect Essay

|              | <b>Proficient</b><br>3 Points  | <b>Emerging</b><br>2 Points   | Beginning<br>1 Points  | 0 Points   |
|--------------|--|---|--|--|
| Focus/Ideas  | Clear, focused essay with<br>identifiable causes and<br>effects and many<br>supporting details | Most ideas, including<br>causes and effects, are<br>clear and supported | Some ideas, including<br>causes and effects, are<br>unclear or off-topic.  | Essay with no<br>development, clear<br>causes or effects.                    |
| Organization | Organized logically, no<br>gaps, strong topic<br>sentence                                      | Organized logically, few gaps, fairly strong topic sentence             | Organizational patterns<br>attempted but not clear;<br>weak topic sentence | No organizational pattern<br>evident, topic sentence<br>weak or non-existent |
| Voice        | Engaging; shows writer's feelings about subject  | Evident voice connecting with reader                                    | Weak voice   | Flat writing with no identifiable  |
| Word Choice  | Vivid, precise word choice<br>with strong use of cause<br>and effect clue words.               | Accurate word choice<br>with good use of cause<br>and effect clue words | Limited or repetitive word<br>choice and use of clue<br>words              | Incorrect, limited word<br>choice with no cause and<br>effect clue words     |
| Sentences    | Varied sentences in logical progression  | Not much variety; order<br>mostly logical                               | Too many similar<br>sentences  | Many fragments and run-<br>pns   |
| Conventions  | Excellent control and<br>accuracy; words used<br>correctly                                     | Good control, few errors;<br>words generally used<br>correctly          | Weak control; words are used incorrectly                                   | Serious errors that obscure meaning  |