

## PROBLEM / SOLUTION – CAUSE / EFFECT ESSAY STRUCTURE

**MOST PROBLEM / SOLUTION ESSAYS USE THIS PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE, for example, all TWELVE TOPICS listed below.**

**1. Paragraph One - Introduction**

**What is the problem? What happens? When / where does it happen?**

**2. Paragraph Two – Causes**

**What are the causes of this problem?**

**3. Paragraph Three – Effects**

**What are the effects of this problem?**

**4. Paragraph Four – Solutions**

**What possible solutions are there? Are these solutions good? Why? Why not?**

**5. Paragraph Five - Conclusion**

**What is the best solution in your opinion? Why?**

### PROBLEM/SOLUTION/CAUSE/EFFECT TOPICS

1. Many people learning English have great difficulty with learning English. Explain why you think this is the case. What particular problems do these speakers have? What are the causes and results of these problems? Finally, how can we try to solve these problems?
2. Living in a large, modern city is very stressful, what are the causes and results of this stress? How can the effects of stress be managed or reduced?
3. Travelling by plane is becoming increasingly dangerous. Discuss the causes and effects of this. Propose ways in which these dangers can be reduced.
4. Why do teenagers take drugs? What effect does this have on their lives and their families? What can be done to solve this problem?
5. What are the causes and effects of obesity [being very overweight] and how can this problem be solved?
6. Unemployment can be a big problem, even in rich, developed countries. What are the causes of unemployment? How does it affect people and their families? What can be done to reduce it?
7. Discuss the causes of hunger (in separate countries, or in general), and its effects.
8. What are the causes and effects of sea pollution and how can we deal with them?
9. Why do wars happen? What are the results of war? Can wars be prevented? How?
10. Why do some people hunt and kill endangered animals? What effect does this have? How can this be prevented?
11. Why do people smoke? What are the effects of smoking? What can be done to stop people smoking?
12. There are far too many car accidents on the roads these days. Why is this? What results does this have? What can be done about it?