

Cause – Effect Essay

ESSAY I

For almost 140 million years, dinosaurs and other large reptiles ruled the land, sky, and sea. Dinosaurs came in sizes and shapes suited to every corner of the world. Then, approximately 65 million years ago, these huge reptiles died out and mammals took over the world. Over the years, scientists have developed many theories to explain the causes of the disappearance of the dinosaurs and the other great reptiles. Three possible causes are a change in the Earth's climate, disease, and the Earth's collision with a large asteroid.

Some scientists believe that the number of dinosaurs declined and eventually disappeared due to a change of the Earth's climate. During the Cretaceous period the climate was tropical. Research indicates that at the end of the Cretaceous period the temperature dropped and the climate became much colder. For this reason, many of the plants that the plant-eating dinosaurs are died.

Another possible cause for the extinction of the dinosaurs is disease. Some scientists think that diseases killed off the dinosaurs when large groups migrated across land bridges between the separate continents and infected one another with new illness. As the Cretaceous period went on, more and more land bridges started to appear on the Earth.

A third cause of the extinction of dinosaurs is the asteroid theory. According to this theory, the extinction was much more sudden and catastrophic. In the late 1970s, scientists discovered evidence for the abrupt end to the Age of Dinosaurs. Dr. Louis Alvarez and his colleagues suggested that about 65 million years ago, the Earth was struck by a huge asteroid. The explosion of the asteroid caused many of the plant-eating dinosaurs died since they could not eat the dead plants.

It seems that no one theory adequately explains why dinosaurs died out. Perhaps dinosaurs simply could not adjust to the changes that were taking place on the Earth toward the end of the Cretaceous period. Perhaps it was a combination of causes that contributed to the end of the Age of Dinosaurs.

Essay II

Discoveries and invention of devices are always welcome till we, humans, find a way to abuse its benefits and be adversely affected by it. This was the case when Wilhelm Roentgen discovered x-ray and within five years, the British Army was using a mobile x-ray unit to

locate bullets and shrapnel in wounded soldiers in the Sudan. TV was also invented with positive thoughts in mind – there would be no national borders, education and communication would be worldwide, etc. However, we are now trying to overcome its physiological and psychological adverse effects on human beings.

One of the physiological effects of watching TV in excessive amounts is eye-strain. It is true that there are specifications for watching TV; TV should be 5 m. away from the eye, the room should be adequately lit, TV should be placed at the same height with our eyes, etc. However, these do not prevent our eyes from getting tired if we keep watching TV for a long time. Another effect is obesity, which is widely observed in people who like watching TV and eating snacks everyday (there is even a term "TV snacks" to refer to fast food that is suitable for eating in front of the TV). TV is such a powerful machine that people cannot get away from it – it is addictive.

Apart from the physiological effects, TV also causes psychological effects. One is a result of being exposed to violence. After seeing so many violent scenes on TV, people start considering violent actions normal and they lose their sensitivity to their environment. Partly connected to this effect, the interpersonal communication among people decreases. Being insensitive to the suffering of other people causes people to become alienated. Also, after coming home from work people seek to relax in front of the TV, and generally people prefer watching TV to talking to each other. This issue is very important since lack of interpersonal relationships mostly end with divorces.

Shortly, inventions are meant to be beneficial for human beings, if we know how to benefit from them. TV is one of such inventions that need to be used for the right purpose only – being educated and entertained for a reasonable (according to age) period of time. We may, then, be safe from or at least reduce the adverse physiological and psychological effects of watching too much TV.

1. Is essay 1 different from essay 2? Explain the difference?
2. Explain the methods used in introductory and concluding paragraph for both essays!
3. Identify the conjunctions used in each paragraph for both essays!