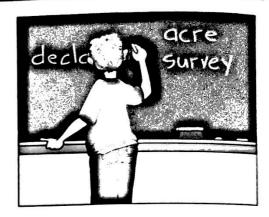# Lesson 7 News Report

In a news report, a reporter writes about an event. The event might be a car accident, a trial, or a school competition. In addition to relating events in the order in which they occurred, the reporter links causes and effects. Causes and effects help readers understand what happens and why.

Here is part of a report about a recent spelling competition. Look for words that signal cause-and-effect relationships: *so, because, as a result, therefore.* When you find them, circle them.

After weeks of practicing, the Brayton Elementary spelling team scored a victory at last night's regional spelling meet. All eight members of the team spelled each of their assigned words correctly. As a result, Brayton achieved a perfect score. The Brayton team received a lengthy ovation from the hundreds of students, teachers, and parents attending the meet because no other school had ever preformed that well at the regional level.

Andrew Carter correctly spelled *Mediterranean* to pull off Brayton's perfect score. When asked if he was worried when he got that word, he replied, "No, I wasn't, because we had studied that word especially." Brayton is a Class A school, so it will compete in next month's Class A semi-final meet.

Write three causes and three effects from the paragraph.

Cause: _____   Effect: _____

_____   _____

Cause: _____   Effect: _____

_____   _____

Cause: _____   Effect: _____

_____   _____

Scanned with CamScanner

Lesson 7 News Report

Now, think about causes and effects in an event in your own life. What happened at last night's science club meeting? At basketball practice? At home last evening? Even if nothing "big" or exciting happened, there were causes and effects in action. What did you do? What happened next? What resulted from these happenings? List some events in order. Draw arrows to show any cause-and-effect relationship among events.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Now, practice writing about causes and effects. Write a paragraph about the happenings you listed above. Remember to use *so, because, as a result,* and *therefore* to clarify the cause-and-effect relationships. Include details about the event to help your reader "see" what happened.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____