Cause and Effect

- A **cause** is what makes something happen. An **effect** is what happens as a result of the cause.
- If there are no clue words, ask yourself, “What made this event happen? What happened as a result of this event?”
- An effect may become the cause of another effect.

**Directions** Read the following passage and complete the diagram below.

By the third day of non-stop rain, no one on our street could keep the water out of their homes. The homes that had basements were hit hardest. Basements were flooded in spite of efforts to pump the water out. Toys, washing machines, and furniture in basements were soaked through completely.

Our neighbor, Mrs. Chan, was so sad because all her photographs of her grandchildren had been in her basement. Her granddaughter May was my best friend, and I had May’s school picture in my wallet. I wrapped it in a plastic bag, put on my raincoat, and ran to Mrs. Chan’s house. Just as I handed Mrs. Chan May’s picture, a ray of sun peeked out from behind a cloud.

**School + Home**

**Home Activity** Your child identified causes and effects in a short passage. While working around the house, have your child explain to you the effects of one of the chores. Then ask your child to figure out if the effect becomes the cause of another effect.
**Writing • Writing for Tests**

**The Winter of Blue Snow**

It was the coldest winter Paul Bunyan had ever seen. It was so cold that the fish moved south, the trees begged to be cut down, and even the snow turned blue. The nights were so frosty that when Sourdough Sam called Paul Bunyan and the other lumberjacks to dinner, his words froze solid and hung in the air, so nobody heard him and the lumberjacks went hungry until morning.

To get his mind off his starving belly, Paul Bunyan went for a walk. He was just about to eat a valley-sized handful of blue snow when he heard a strange sound—like the snort of a bear crossed with the bleat of a lamb. Peering into his hands, Paul Bunyan saw the sorriest sight: a tiny baby ox, stained blue by the snow.

Well, Paul Bunyan took pity on the poor little ox and took him to Sourdough Sam for a few gallons of milk. While old Sourdough heated the milk over the fifty-burner stove, Paul Bunyan ate the dinner intended for fifty lumberjacks—he left not one spiral ham, bushel of mashed potatoes, or gallon of gravy on the massive table.

Soon it was clear that the little blue ox, which Paul Bunyan named Babe, had it in mind to take after its new owner. That first night, Babe drank the milk of a hundred cows, so the next morning Sourdough Sam had to make oatmeal for breakfast with melted blue snow. Babe soon grew so big that Paul Bunyan had to build an extra large barn to keep him in. When Babe was a week old, he started helping Paul Bunyan by hauling a hundred logs at a time by the strength of his massive neck.

The only trouble between Babe and Paul Bunyan was that Babe loved the winter and hated summer, so Paul Bunyan had to be mighty creative to keep Babe hauling logs in the summer heat. He even painted the roads white to make Babe think that they were covered in snow. Finally, Paul Bunyan hit on a grand idea: he introduced Babe to Bessie, the yellow cow. Bessie was almost as big as Babe and as beautiful as a summer day. She had a lovely yellow hide and warm brown eyes that nearly melted the blue right off Babe.

Now, being a summer cow and Sourdough Sam's best provider of milk and cream during the winter, Bessie could only work during the summer months. So during the winter, Babe hauled logs alone, thinking all the time about his Bessie, and during the summer, Babe and Bessie hauled logs together, which made Babe grow to love the summertime almost as much as Bessie did.

1. Find three improbable events in paragraph 1. Underline them.
2. Find two realistic details in paragraph 2. Underline them.
3. Find three exaggerated details in paragraph 5 that create humor. Underline them.
Vocabulary

Directions Choose the word from the box that best matches each definition. Write the word on the line.

1. blood vessels that carry blood to the heart from all parts of the body
2. song for singing to a child
3. stealing
4. a thick, black, sticky substance made from tar or turpentine
5. fitted together; built

Directions Choose the word from the box that best completes the sentences below. Write the word on the line shown to the left.

6. The rancher ________ his cattle with the symbol from his ranch so nobody else could claim them.
7. The cracks in the roof were sealed with ________ .
8. Grandma and Grandpa danced elegantly, or ________, in time with the music’s gentle beat.
9. When no one else could think of how to solve the school’s litter problem, Marisa impressed the principal with her_______ idea.
10. The tornado caused a lot of ________, or destruction, when it whipped through town and ripped several homes from their foundations.

Write a Friendly Letter

On a separate sheet of paper, write a friendly letter to someone living out of town about an event that happened where you live. Use as many vocabulary words as you can.

Home Activity Your child identified and used vocabulary words from Thunder Rose. Work with your child to learn the words and their definitions. Have your child create colorful flash cards to do so.
Subjects and Predicates

Every sentence has a subject and a predicate. The words that tell whom or what the sentence is about are the **complete subject**.

Many families moved west in the 1840s. The words that tell what the subject is or does are the **complete predicate**.

The trip could take up to six months.

A **nominative** is a noun or pronoun that means the same as the subject. It explains or identifies something about the subject.

Joe was an experienced cowboy. The nominative is *cowboy*.

A **fragment** is a group of words that lacks a subject or a predicate.

Had to carry everything with them. This fragment lacks a subject.

A **run-on** is two or more complete sentences run together.

The settlers needed food they needed tools.

**Directions** Underline each complete subject once. Underline each complete predicate twice.

1. A tornado’s shape is like a funnel.
2. The deadly funnel measures up to a mile wide.
3. They are unpredictable in their movements.
4. Settlers feared the awful twister.

**Directions** Write *F* after a fragment. Write *R* after a run-on. Then correct the sentence errors. Write a simple sentence or a compound sentence on the lines.

5. The wind inside a tornado ________

6. A tornado can be called a twister it is also sometimes called a cyclone. ________

**Home Activity** Your child learned about subjects and predicates. Talk about a storm you and your child have experienced. Have your child write several sentences about the storm and identify the complete subjects and predicates in each sentence.
Long Vowel VCV

Words in Context  Complete each sentence with a list word.
1. From a small ____, a large oak tree grows.
2. When you are sick, you may have a ____.
3. Your ____ is what you think of yourself.
4. Flying ____ means doing something alone.
5. A desert ____ may produce too little rain to support crops.
6. The two people were loud and ____ as they cheered.
7. The travel ____ helped plan a vacation.
8. We want to stay in the ____ that has a pool.
9. Have you ever watched a ____ spin its web?
10. The clothing ____ itches the back of my neck.

Antonyms  Write the list word that has the opposite or nearly the opposite meaning.
11. fixed
12. advanced
13. alien
14. noisy
15. unimportant

Synonyms  Write the list word that has the same or nearly the same meaning.
16. work
17. reason
18. object
19. scent
20. image

Home Activity  Your child wrote words with the long vowel VCV pattern. Have your child tell you one synonym or one antonym for a list word.
# Scoring Rubric: Tall Tale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Focus/Ideas</strong></td>
<td>Exaggerated character and events</td>
<td>Somewhat exaggerated character and events</td>
<td>Character and events hardly exaggerated</td>
<td>Character and events not exaggerated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Organization/Sequence</strong></td>
<td>Clear order of events</td>
<td>Mostly clear order of events</td>
<td>Confused order of events</td>
<td>No order of events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Voice</strong></td>
<td>Engaging and original voice</td>
<td>Generally engaging voice</td>
<td>No clear original voice</td>
<td>Voice is not engaging or original</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Word Choice</strong></td>
<td>Writer uses strong sensory details</td>
<td>Writer uses good sensory details</td>
<td>Writer uses weak sensory details</td>
<td>Writer does not include sensory details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sentences</strong></td>
<td>Clear, complete sentences</td>
<td>Most sentences clear and complete</td>
<td>Some sentences unclear and incomplete</td>
<td>Many sentences incomplete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conventions</strong></td>
<td>Subjects and predicates used correctly</td>
<td>Most subjects and predicates used correctly</td>
<td>Some mistakes with subjects and predicates</td>
<td>Many errors with subjects and predicates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Name ____________________________

**Vocabulary • Context Clues**

- **Homonyms** are words that are spelled the same but have different meanings.
- **Look for context clues**—words and sentences around a word—to figure out which meaning is being used in the sentence.

**Directions**  Read the following passage about a hurricane. Then answer the questions below. Look for homonyms as you read.

As Pedro scaled the ladder to the roof, he felt the blood in his veins pumping through his body. He was the first person to get a look at the destruction the hurricane had created. He looked at the roof and reminded himself to bring up a bucket of pitch next time to repair the new cracks. Looking out over the countryside, he saw that many buildings would need to be constructed again. He started gathering broken branches to pitch, or throw, down to the ground below. Then he paused and took a deep breath, thinking about what this disaster had done to his community. He knew that none of his neighbors would have to pitch tents and live in their yards while repairs were made to their homes. The people of his town would help each other find shelter, and everyone would be fine.

1. *Vein* can mean “a blood vessel” or “a crack in a rock filled with a mineral deposit.” How is it used in the passage? How can you tell?

2. What does *pitch* mean in the third sentence of this passage? What clues help you understand the meaning used in this sentence?

3. What does *pitch* mean in the fifth sentence of this passage? What clues help you understand the meaning used in this sentence?

4. To *scale* something can mean “to climb up something” or “to measure something.” How is it used in this passage? How can you tell?

5. What does *pitch* mean in the second-to-last sentence of this passage? What clues help you understand the meaning used in this sentence?

**Home Activity** Your child read a short passage and used context clues to understand homonyms, words that are spelled the same but have different meanings. With your child, make a list of homonyms. Challenge your child to make up a sentence using each meaning.
Almanac

An almanac is a yearly book that contains calendars, weather information, and dates of holidays. Almanacs also contain charts and tables of current information in subject areas such as populations of cities and nations, and lists of recent prize winners in science, literature, and sports.

Directions Read this almanac entry about the United States Census. Use the information to answer the questions on the next page.

United States Census

Every ten years, the federal government conducts a census, or count, of the number of people who live in the United States. According to the federal Constitution, a census must be completed every ten years to determine the number of representatives each state may send to the U.S. House of Representatives.

The census shows how the populations of cities, regions, and states compare. This data helps government officials decide how and where to spend federal money. Traditionally, a census not only counts the number of citizens, but it also gathers other information, such as:

- the ethnic background of citizens
- the number of adults and children
- the number of employed people and unemployed people
- the income level of citizens and their type of housing

For many decades, the three largest cities have remained New York City, Los Angeles, and Chicago. However, other cities are growing more quickly than any of these three. Many sociologists, economists, and government officials find the growth rates of cities the most interesting information in the census. In recent years, the trend has been for great numbers of people to move from the North to the South—especially to states in the Southwest.

The federal government collects data every year, not just every decade. For instance, the chart below shows data from the 2000 census in one column, but it also includes data collected by the government in 2002. This chart shows the ten fastest growing cities of 100,000 people or more in the United States.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gilbert, AZ</td>
<td>109,920</td>
<td>135,005</td>
<td>25,085</td>
<td>22.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Las Vegas, NV</td>
<td>115,488</td>
<td>135,902</td>
<td>20,414</td>
<td>17.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson, NV</td>
<td>175,750</td>
<td>206,153</td>
<td>30,403</td>
<td>17.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandler, AZ</td>
<td>176,652</td>
<td>202,016</td>
<td>25,364</td>
<td>14.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peoria, AZ</td>
<td>108,685</td>
<td>123,239</td>
<td>14,554</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irvine, CA</td>
<td>143,072</td>
<td>162,122</td>
<td>19,050</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rancho Cucamonga, CA</td>
<td>127,743</td>
<td>143,711</td>
<td>15,968</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chula Vista, CA</td>
<td>173,566</td>
<td>193,919</td>
<td>20,353</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fontana, CA</td>
<td>128,938</td>
<td>143,607</td>
<td>14,669</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joliet, IL</td>
<td>106,334</td>
<td>118,423</td>
<td>12,089</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. According to the U.S. Constitution, what is the maximum number of years that can pass between federal censuses?

2. What is the purpose of conducting a federal census, according to the U.S. Constitution?

3. In addition to population, what are two examples of other data a census provides?

4. What types of people consult the federal census?

5. What are the three largest cities in the United States?

6. Which state has the most listings among the fastest-growing cities on the 2002 census?

7. Would an almanac be a good place to find information on why nine of ten fastest-growing U.S. cities are located in the Southwest or West? Why or why not?

8. Which city had the highest numerical increase in population between 2000 and 2002?

9. Which city had the highest population in 2002? How much higher is its population than that of the city listed below it?

10. Between 2000 and 2002, Los Angeles (population 3,503,532) saw a numerical increase in population of 104,239. Why do you think Los Angeles isn’t listed on this chart?

**Home Activity** Your child learned about the contents of almanacs and analyzed data from an almanac. Together, look up information about your town or area of the country in an almanac. Read about population, weather forecast, historical sites, and so on. Discuss how the information in the almanac helps you better understand your own geographical area.
Long Vowel VCV

Proofread a Postcard  Yolanda wrote a postcard to her friend. Circle six spelling errors and one capitalization error. Write the corrections on the lines.

dear Margaret,

   I’m having a great time at the hotel. There are lemon trees everywhere and the aroma from the blossoms is awesome. Today, I’m going to buy some gifts. There are many native crafts to choose from. It’s very calm and silent here. The only noise comes from the wind and the ocean. Thank your travel agent for suggesting this place. It’s now a family favorite!

   Your friend,
   Yolanda

1. ______________  2. ______________
3. ______________  4. ______________
5. ______________  6. ______________
7. ______________

Proofread Words  Circle the correct spelling of the word.

   8. vocle  vocal  vocel
   9. label  laebel  labal
  10. brokin  broken  broken
  11. basec  basic  basuc
  12. ikon  icon  ican
  13. motive  motife  motove
  14. akorn  acern  acorn
  15. fever  fevar  feaver
  16. eego  ego  egho

Spelling Words

   favorite
   buy

School & Home  Home Activity  Your child identified misspelled list words in a paragraph. Ask your child to name one list word with the long a sound and one with the long o sound.

60  Spelling  Long Vowel VCV
Subjects and Predicates

Directions Read the passage. Then read each question. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

Cowboys of Texas

(1) Cowboys of Texas herded cattle to Kansas on the Abilene Trail. (2) The great herds moved along slowly. (3) These large animals must graze for hours each day. (4) They needed a vast supply of water. (5) Lean, tanned cowboys (6) They crossed dangerous rivers and slept under the light of the moon. (7) A cowboy’s horse was his friend and co-worker.

1 What is the complete subject of sentence 1?
   A Cowboys
   B Cowboys of Texas
   C Kansas
   D the Abilene Trail

2 What is the complete predicate of sentence 2?
   A moved
   B moved along
   C moved along slowly
   D The great herds

3 What is the complete subject of sentence 3?
   A These large animals
   B large animals
   C hours each day
   D animals must graze

4 How can you best describe sentence 5?
   A Has a subject and predicate
   B Run-on sentence
   C Has a complete subject
   D Sentence fragment

5 In sentence 6, what is the complete subject?
   A They
   B They crossed
   C They crossed dangerous rivers
   D rivers

Home Activity Your child prepared for taking tests on subjects, predicates, fragments, and run-ons. Circle a paragraph in the newspaper. Have your child identify the subject and predicate of each sentence in the paragraph.