Name _____ Date _____

Answer Key Cause and Effect: Structure

Cause and effect are connected events.	Cause (First)	Effect (Then)
A **cause** is the *first event* and the **effect** is the *second event*, or resulting action, that happens after the cause.	It rained for three months in India.	There were floods.

Directions: Label the signal words "SW," and underline and label the cause "C" and the effect "E" in different colors. Some signal words may include the following: "because," "due to," "lead to," "since," "as a result," and " if-then" sentences.

INDIA

ARABIAN SEA

BAY OF BENGAL

LAKSHADWEEP INDIA

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS INDIA

INDIAN OCEAN

E Precipitation, or rain, happens **SW**(because) **C** warm air is filled with heavy water droplets and rain

falls. **C** When the sun heats up water, it **SW**(leads to) **E** water droplets rising into the air. **C** Water droplets

join together in the sky and **E** make clouds. The droplets get bigger in the clouds **E** **SW**(due to) water

droplets bumping into each other. **SW**(Since) **C** the droplets get heavier and heavier, they eventually

E fall as rain.

While most rain does not last very long, monsoon seasons can last for months. A monsoon is a

seasonal wind system from the Indian Ocean. It blows from the southwest in the summer and

the northeast in the winter. **SW**(When) **C** the wind system hits the southwest, **E** heavy rain begins.

Answer Key

Every summer, India has storms that never seem to end. [C] The rain can last for up to five months. [SW] (As a result,) [E] large amounts of water cover southern Asia and the Indian Ocean. [E] People and

wildlife rely on these seasonal monsoons [SW] (because) [C] the storms help water the crops and

replenish rivers. [SW] (If) [C] a monsoon strikes too early in the summer, [SW] (then) [E] dangerous floods can wipe

out whole towns. But [SW] (if) [C] a monsoon happens too late, [SW] (then) [E] the lack of water can cause droughts

and famine. [C] Famine and drought can [SW] (cause) [E] thirsty plants and hungry people. The balance

between the right amount of rain can affect many people.

Challenge: Find cause-and-effect relationships that do not have typical signal words or phrases.

Storms occur and replenish the water.