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ACTIVITY PAGE

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Cause and Effect Paragraphs

Sequencing Events

Sequence the following events from first to last. The first event, the French and Indian War, is already labeled. Number the remaining events 2–5.

_____ Parliament passed the Stamp Act, taxing colonists to raise money for Great Britain.

_____ Great Britain was left with enormous debts after the war and needed additional funds to maintain the new lands it acquired from France.

1 The British fought and defeated the French in the French and Indian War to gain control of land in North America.

_____ The colonists protested the Stamp Act with meetings, pamphlets, and petitions to London.

_____ The colonists felt the Stamp Act was unfair because they had no representation in the British Parliament where the laws were made.

Identify Causes and Effects

The chronology, or order, of events is very important when writing a cause and effect essay because it helps the reader understand both what happened and why. One event often causes another to happen.

Each sentence below tells about one of the events you have just sequenced. Each sentence includes both what happened (effect) and why it happened (cause).

Read the sentence fragments beneath each complete sentence and identify which one describes the cause and which one describes the effect of each event. Type either cause or effect in the box given after each sentence fragment. The first one has been completed for you.

1. Because the British and the French wanted to gain control of land in North America, they fought each other in the French and Indian War.
 - because the British and the French wanted to gain control of land in North America
 - they fought each other in the French and Indian War
2. Great Britain needed money due to its enormous war debts.
 - Great Britain needed money
 - due to its enormous war debts
3. Parliament passed the Stamp Act because the British government felt the colonists should help pay for the war.
 - Parliament passed the Stamp Act
 - because the British government felt the colonists should help pay for the war

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4. Since the colonists had no representation in the British government, they felt the Stamp Act was unfair.

- since the colonists had no representation in the British government
- they felt the Stamp Act was unfair

5. The colonists felt the Stamp Act was unfair, so they protested the Stamp Act.

- the colonists felt the Stamp Act was unfair
- so they protested the Stamp Act

Identify and type vertical lines to mark cause and effect transition words in the previous sentences, using the information in the following chart as a guide.

Cause Transition Words	Effect Transition Words
because	consequently
due to	as a result
one cause is, another is	thus
since	resulted in
for	one reason is, another is
first, second	so