DRAG AND DROP	Introduce effects	Effect 3 (long term)	Introduce causes	Effect 1 (short term)	Effect 4 (positive)
Second cause	Summarize effects	Announce essay purpose and part	Example 1 of other causes	The most common cause	Summarize causes
Other causes	Explain example 2	Background, explain the issue	Effect 2	Explain effect 4	Example 2 of other causes

THE CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF FLOODS

1 Floods occur when water covers land that is usually dry 2 This essay will explore some of the causes of floods, and their short-term and long-term effects.

3 Flooding has a wide range of causes. 4 The most common is excessive rainfall, which makes the water level of a river rise until it overflows its banks. 5 An earthquake on the ocean floor can also cause a flood because it sometimes starts a huge wave called a tsunami. 6 Other causes are due to human activity. 7 Concrete laid on the earth's surface, for example, leads to rainwater running across the ground rather than down into it. 8 Cutting down trees contributes to flooding, too, because the leaves of trees can hold a lot of rainwater. 9 Without trees, much more rainwater reaches the ground.

10 Whatever the cause of a flood, its effects can be very damaging in the short term. 11 It can result in the destruction of buildings, possessions, and crops. 12 It can even kill people. 13 In the longer term, it can be difficult to grow crops on farmland that has been flooded with salt water. 14 However, river floodwater can have a more positive long-term effect. 15 It often carries rich soil onto farmland, which can help crops to grow.

16 In conclusion, floods have a wide variety of natural and human causes. 17 They can be very destructive, but they can also have a positive long-term effect.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS