**Contents of a Causes Essay**

**Title**

**Introductory Paragraph**

**Topic Sentence (G, C, or S Topic Sentence)**

**(Target event, grabs reader)**

**Background Sentences**

**(Define the target event & background on the event, and or**

**Introductory Option)**

**Thesis Statement (S Topic Sentence)**

**(Target event, major causes, message)**

**Detail Paragraphs**

**Topic/Transition Sentence (G, C, or S Topic Sentence)**

**(Transition, Target event, a major cause)**

**Lead-off Sentences**

**(Transition, introduce a new detail related to the cause)**

**Follow-up Sentences**

**(Provide more info about that detail using your research)**

**Concluding Paragraph**

**Concluding Transition Sentence (G, C, or S Topic Sentence)**

**(Concluding Transition, target event, mentions “causes”)**

**Detail Sentences**

**(Summarize causes and/or use a Concluding Option)**

**Clincher Sentence**

**(Target event, mentions “causes,” message)**

© 2012 by Schumaker. Edge Enterprises, Lawrence, KS.