

Cause-Effect Fixers Answer Key

1. Corrected: The storm made everyone stay indoors, and people wore raincoats **because** the streets were covered in water.
(Error: cause and effect flipped - people wore raincoats because of water, not the other way around.)
2. Corrected: The students had mixed too many chemicals together, **so** the science experiment exploded and the classroom smelled like smoke.
(Error: explosion did not happen "because" of the smell - the chemicals caused both the explosion and the smoke.)
3. Corrected: The delivery truck pulled into the driveway, **so** the dog barked loudly and the neighbors complained.
(Error: barking did not happen "because" neighbors complained - the truck caused barking, which caused complaints.)
4. Corrected: The basketball team had just won the championship game, **so** the fans cheered and the team celebrated.
(Error: team didn't celebrate "because" of cheering - winning was the cause of both cheering and celebration.)

Fix and Write

Example:

Student's paragraph → *The fire alarm rang because the students were outside.*

Correction → *The students were outside because the fire alarm rang.*

Teacher Notes / Guide

- **Focus Skill:** Trains students to carefully check logic in cause-and-effect writing.
- **Support:** Encourage highlighting signal words to see if they make sense.
- **Extension:** Ask advanced students to rewrite each passage two different ways using varied signal words.
- **Discussion Prompt:** *"How can reversing cause and effect change the meaning of a passage?"*