

Reason Tracers Answer Key

Causes in Each Passage

- **Passage 1**

Effect → streets were flooded

Causes → *wind howled through the trees, heavy rain fell for hours, riverbanks overflowed, drains clogged with leaves*

- **Passage 2**

Effect → Jamie was late to school

Causes → *Jamie stayed up late watching a movie, he forgot to set his alarm, his phone battery died overnight*

- **Passage 3**

Effect → customers had to wait a long time for their drinks

Causes → *the café ran out of milk, the delivery truck was delayed, many customers ordered lattes that morning*

Sample Student Response (answers will vary)

Example:

Passage → *Ella left her homework on the bus, her printer at home was broken, and she spilled juice on her notebook. Effect: Ella had nothing to hand in to her teacher.*

Causes (underlined) → *left her homework on the bus, printer was broken, spilled juice on her notebook*

Teacher Notes / Guide

- **Focus Skill:** Students learn that multiple causes often build toward a single effect.
- **Differentiation:**
 - *Support:* Provide shorter passages with only two causes.
 - *Challenge:* Ask advanced students to create passages where causes are less obvious (e.g., implied rather than directly stated).
- **Discussion Prompt:** "Why is it important to look for all the causes of one effect in a story or real-life event?"