Learn the lingo

In 2014, the Global Language Monitor estimated the total number of words in the English language was **1,025,109.8**. (.8?!) English is a rich language with **LOTS of synonyms**. You'll find the following for the words **cause** and **effect**:

- **Cause** — reason, action, root, origin, source, motive, basis, generate, trigger, provoke, bring about, effect (verb), etiology (medical), etc.
- **Effect** — result, outcome, response, consequence, conclusion, upshot, impact, ramification, aftermath, reaction, etc.

Find the lingo that accurately describes your research topic.
Practice searching for cause-effect topics

Do you already have a cause-effect research topic? If so, use it for this practice exercise.

If you don’t have a topic, try one of these:

• Popularity of online shopping
• Cost of college textbooks
• Digital piracy
• Cardiovascular disease
• Grade inflation in college
• Football players and concussions
• Low college graduation rate
• Financing new sports stadiums

Which topic did you choose?: _____________________

Search Academic Search Complete:
1. Find an article about your search topic.
2. Which does it discuss? Cause  Effect  Both
3. What is the most important cause or effect mentioned in the article?__________________
   __________________________________________
4. How many articles did you find? _____
   Click the Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals limiter on the left side. What the total number of articles now? ____________
5. Can you identify a relevant subject? Yes  No
6. If you answer yes, what is it?
   __________________________________________
7. How many results did you have before you clicked on the subject? ______  After? ______
8. Provide the following information for the most relevant article you found:
   Author: ______________________________________
   Article title: ______________________________________
   __________________________________________
   Publication: _______________________________
   Date: _____________________________________

Search Credo Reference OR Gale Virtual Reference Library:
9. Database you selected: ____________________
10. Find an article about your search topic.
11. Which does it discuss?  Cause  Effect  Both
12. What is the most important cause or effect mentioned in the article?__________________
   __________________________________________
13. Provide the following information for the most relevant article you found:
   Author: ______________________________________
   Article title: ______________________________________
   __________________________________________
   Publication: _______________________________
   Date: _____________________________________

Search Opposing Viewpoints OR Issues and Controversies OR a database of your choice:
14. Database you selected: ____________________
15. Find an article about your search topic.
16. Which does it discuss?  Cause  Effect  Both
17. What is the most important cause or effect mentioned in the article?__________________
   __________________________________________
18. Provide the following information for the most relevant article you found:
   Author: ______________________________________
   Article title: ______________________________________
   __________________________________________
   Publication: _______________________________
   Date: _____________________________________