Cause and Effect Essay Self-Analysis

1. Identify the form of your causal claim, and then explain why you chose this form for your argument.

2. Explain which methods you used to investigate the causes for your claim, and how you used them in your pre-writing process. You may have used any combination of John Stuart Mill's techniques.

   - *The Common Factor Method*
   - *The Single Difference Method*

   - *Concomitant Variation*
   - *Process of Elimination*

   I used…

3. Did you mistake correlation for causation? Look specifically at your causes — Are they logical? Are they mere coincidence? Explain.

4. List all the causal links — the links between events and their consequences — that you have used in this paper (e.g. *Event-_____, Consequence-_____*).

5. Write your thesis here:

   Does your thesis match one of the templates on p. 120? If not, fix it so that it does.

6. What is "at stake" in your claim? Why is your argument important?

7. Who are your readers? How familiar will they be with the topic? How do you know?

8. How likely are your readers to accept your causal explanations? Is there an alternative explanation that they might consider instead of yours?