

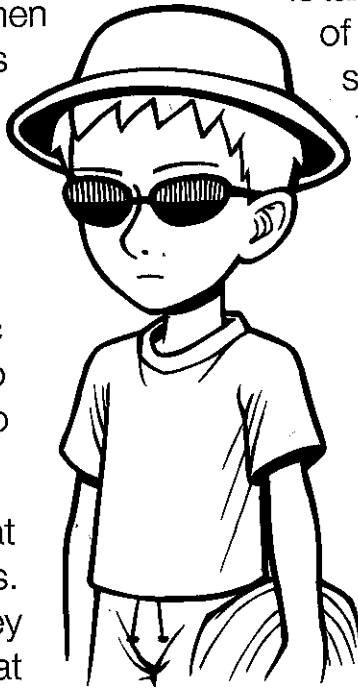
Cause and effect – 1

Cause and effect is when one thing (the cause) makes something else happen (the effect). If you want to understand what you read, you must be able to work out the cause and effect.

Read the explanation.

How to stay safe around water

1. Playing in and around water can be fun. However, there are things you should do to stay safe.
2. If you are swimming or playing near a jetty, always know how deep the water is before jumping or diving in. The water can be shallower than you think and neck and back injuries can occur. Look carefully when walking along the water's edge, as hidden logs, rocks or broken glass can bruise or cut your feet. Also, enter the water slowly if it is cold. You can feel as if you are losing your breath and panic if you enter cold water too fast. You won't be able to float or swim properly.
3. Read and obey notices that give advice to swimmers. An important one to obey is not to swim near a boat ramp, waterskiers or jet skis. It is difficult for the driver of these vehicles to see and avoid swimmers, who can be seriously hurt.
4. When you are at the beach, swim between the red and yellow flags placed there by lifesavers. The water between the flags is generally calmer and there will not be rips.



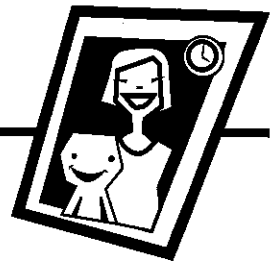
Rips are large bodies of water that move back out to sea. If you do get caught in a rip, don't try to fight it and swim back to shore. It's too strong. The current about a ruler's length under the water is very strong and you will feel as if you are being pulled under. Try to float on top while the rip is taking you out to sea. Once out of the rip, swim parallel to the shore and put your hand up to signal for help. Lifesavers can fetch you in their rescue boat. Always swim in view of a lifesaver at the beach or public pool so they can help you if necessary.

If you are climbing on rocks near the shore or walking on a reef at low tide, it is a good idea to wear footwear. This will protect your feet from cuts, or stings from sea creatures such as a blue-ringed octopus.

Finally, keep your skin safe when in and around water. Wear a hat, T-shirt, sunscreen and sunglasses to protect your skin and eyes from the glare and harmful rays. Sun exposure over a long period of time can cause skin cancer and damage your eyes.

Cause and effect

Practice page



Use similar strategies to those on page 77 to practise working out cause and effect.

(Clues are given to help you.)

1. What is one effect of entering the water too fast if it is cold?

- (a) You can hurt your back.
- (b) You can shiver.
- (c) You can lose your breath and panic.
- (d) You can hurt your neck.

The best answer is .

Think!
You will need to look in Paragraph 2 and read the effects of cold water.

2. What could be the effect of not looking when you are walking along the edge of a river?

- (a) You could bruise or cut your feet on a hidden object.
- (b) You could look at the sun.
- (c) You could wear a hat.
- (d) You could bump into a ship.

The best answer is .

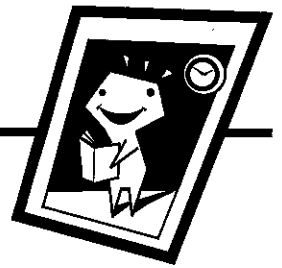
Think!
You will need to read Paragraph 2 to find the answer.

3. Why can a jet ski cause a swimmer to be seriously hurt?

Think!
Read Paragraph 3 to find the answer.

4. What can be the effect of exposing skin to the sun over a long period of time?

Think!
You will need to read the last Paragraph.



On your own

Think about the strategies you have been using and work out these answers.

1. *What is one possible effect of not swimming between the red and yellow flags at the beach?*

- (a) The water is calmer outside the flags.
- (b) You could get caught in a rip.
- (c) The water is deeper outside the flags.
- (d) You could be hit by the lifesavers' rescue boat.

The best answer is .

2. *What is the cause of cuts or stings on your feet while walking on a reef at low tide?*

- (a) Forgetting to wear a hat.
- (b) Not wearing shoes of some kind.
- (c) Not looking where you are going.
- (d) Walking on the reef too long.

The best answer is .

3. *How can you prevent the effect the sun can have on your skin and eyes when in and around water?*

4. *What happens to someone who is caught in a rip?*
