

English 183

The Cause and Effect Essay

Question: How can I improve Student Essay 2 (pp 14-15 in the textbook)?

Answers:

A) Change the topic sentence of paragraph 4 to fit supporting details this way:

The second cause of halitosis is dryness of mouth, which is mainly caused by smoking.

B) Re-arrange paragraphs in order of familiarity:

1. plaque/food 2. dryness of mouth 3. alcohol/baking soda

The thesis statement should reflect this change like this:

The three main causes that lead to halitosis or chronic bad breath are accumulated bacterial plaques and food coated on the back of the tongue, dryness of mouth caused mainly by smoking, and alcohol and baking soda based oral products.

C) Add the missing summary part to the concluding paragraph.

This is the corrected concluding paragraph prepared by Section 2:

Accumulated bacterial plaque and food, dry mouth, and oral products with alcohol or baking soda are the three main causes of halitosis. When bacteria react with food in the mouth, putrid gases are produced. Bad breath also results from smoking, sinus and nasal blockages, and sleep because these give rise to mouth dryness. Alcohol and baking soda in oral products promote dryness of tissue and change the pH of the mouth, thus resulting in halitosis.

Question: Should there be any changes in the introductory paragraph? Should there be any other changes in the essay? Discuss in class.