

## EN111-i03 F16 ESSAY 3

### Causal Analysis: Essay 3 Assignment

**Due Date:** Saturday, October 9, 2016, before 10:59 pm

**Audience:** Campus community

**Length Requirement:** at least 750 words

**Assignment:** A causal analysis essay on the detrimental effects that some other successful synanthropes, such as rats, have upon the habitat they share with humans—and humans upon them.

(**Synanthrope:** a broad category defining all of those organisms which have adapted to environments that humans create. **Not** domestic animals. This is **NOT** a research paper, but for more information on what a synanthrope is, see the [Wikipedia page here \(Links to an external site.\)](#).)

#### Overview:

The focus is on the connections made between the cause and effect which produce specific consequences. The three main purposes for a Causal Analysis academic essay are:

- To prove a point
- To argue against a widely accepted belief
- To speculate on a theory

Often this mode of writing will include the rhetorical forms of narrative/descriptive, example and compare/contrast to develop the essay.

In the past two weeks, our overarching theme has been “man and nature”. For essay three, choose a synanthropic organism (e.g., rats, crows, roaches, geckos, pigeons, raccoons) and compose an essay of approximately 500-750 words that discusses the interconnectedness of animal, man, and the environment. Chose a creature you are familiar with--remember, this is NOT a research essay!

#### Goal:

Use causal analysis to probe the why of specific actions, events, attitudes, and/or conditions and then examine the effect of specific consequences.

#### Traps to avoid:

- This is not a research paper; choose an organism you are familiar with.
- Organize well, avoiding repetition.

#### Some hints on writing this essay:

- Support your statements with evidence. **DO NOT USE RESEARCH!** This essay should be from your own knowledge.
- Details, and the quality of details, will make or break this paper. Since you’re not using research for support, readers must be able to “see” and “hear”, etc., your point of view. Show how the organism has adapted to its human environment—don’t just tell us.

The **purpose** of this essay is to answer the “why” in our lives.

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### **Information about essay evaluation:**

As I read your essays, I will be looking for the following:

- A clearly defined topic that you can develop within the space allotted;
- A clearly stated thesis that provides the reader a clear sense of purpose and direction for the essay;
- Specific examples that explain and illustrate your point;
- Reasonable control of grammar and punctuation, with an emphasis on the correct use of commas;
- Appropriate MLA format for the essay and any in-text citations.