

 **Critical Thinking Skills** Activity 8

**SOCIAL STUDIES OBJECTIVE:** Analyze information by identifying cause-and-effect relationships.

## Identifying Cause-and-Effect Relationships

### LEARNING THE SKILL

An event or a condition that makes something happen is a **cause**. An **effect** is what happens as a result of the cause.

Cause	Effect
The Centralist Party came into power.	Texans had less freedom.

### APPLYING THE SKILL

**DIRECTIONS:** Identify the cause and effect in each sentence below. Write them under the correct heading on the chart. Look for word clues such as *because, resulted in, in order to, so that, and therefore* to help you determine causes and effects.

1. Because the prosperity of many Texans depended upon trade with the United States, the customs duties of the Law of April 6 alarmed the settlers.
2. Bradburn's arrest of Travis and Jack resulted in a skirmish between Bradburn and the colonists.
3. The Convention of 1832 was called in order to discuss changes needed in Texas.
4. Austin's supporters paid the Mexican authorities bail money so that Austin could be released from prison.
5. Austin was imprisoned on his way home from Mexico City. Therefore, another year would pass before he could return to his colony.

Cause	Effect

(continued)

 **Critical Thinking Skills****Activity 8****CHAPTER 8****PRACTICING THE SKILL**

**DIRECTIONS:** Read the following passage about Santa Anna. Then answer the questions below by circling the letter of the correct answer.

Many of the difficulties Mexico had in settling into its new role as an independent country can be blamed on the political con-  
niving of Antonio López de Santa Anna. In 1828 Santa Anna used his fame as a military leader to have his favorite candidate elected president of Mexico. In return, Santa Anna was appointed to the position of the country's top general. In this role, he gained even more fame by defeating Spain's attempt to take back Mexico in 1829 and easily took the presidency himself in 1833.

Because Santa Anna had no patience with the slow workings of government, he left

many of the responsibilities of his presidency to his vice president. When Santa Anna finally realized that control of the government had begun to slip away from him, he led a military coup against his own vice president. Although Santa Anna had declared himself to be a Federalist, he was now determined to tighten his grip on Mexico's government. By arresting those who in any way opposed him and by making the government more centralized and authoritative, Santa Anna showed himself to be a dictator and set the stage for many years of turmoil in Mexico, including the breaking away of Texas.

1. Which of the following sentences tells the effect of Santa Anna's lack of patience with the slow workings of government?
  - A. Santa Anna was appointed to the position of the country's top general.
  - B. Santa Anna used his military fame to get elected.
  - C. Santa Anna left many of the responsibilities of his presidency to his vice president.
  - D. Santa Anna led a military coup against his vice president.
2. According to this passage, many of Mexico's problems
  - A. were the effects of the Federalists' government.
  - B. were caused by Austin.
  - C. were the effects of the Texas rebellion.
  - D. were caused by Santa Anna.
3. What caused the people of Mexico to elect Santa Anna's favorite candidate president in 1828?
  - A. They were influenced by Santa Anna's fame as a military leader.
  - B. They were impatient with the slow workings of their government.
  - C. They hoped the candidate would be able to defeat Spain.
  - D. They wanted a more centralized and authoritative government.