CAUSE & EFFECT

Understanding informational text | Worked example

TOPIC / BIG QUESTION

What contributed to the weakening of the Western Roman Empire?

CAUSES

Why did it happen? Identify up to three contributing factors.

CAUSE 1

Political instability made governing difficult.

CAUSE 2

Military pressure increased along the empire’s borders.

CAUSE 3

Economic difficulties weakened government resources.

MAIN EFFECT

What happened as a result?

The Western Roman Empire became less able to maintain control and defend its territories.

LONGER-TERM OUTCOME

In 476 CE, the last Western Roman emperor was removed from power.

EXPLAIN YOUR THINKING

Say your explanation aloud. Then write one or two connected sentences.

The Western Roman Empire weakened because several political, military and economic problems reduced its stability.

CAUSE & EFFECT

Understanding informational text | Student organiser

TOPIC / BIG QUESTION

_____

CAUSES

Why did it happen? Identify up to three contributing factors.

CAUSE 1

CAUSE 2

CAUSE 3

MAIN EFFECT

What happened as a result?

LONGER-TERM OUTCOME

EXPLAIN YOUR THINKING

Say your explanation aloud. Then write one or two connected sentences.

One cause was _____. As a result,

_____