

DIRK THE PROTECTOR
Reading Skill

COPY MASTER

IDENTIFY CAUSE AND EFFECT

In order to understand what you read, you need to know why one event (the **cause**) makes another event (the **effect**) happen. Sometimes, the writer states directly that one event causes another, as when Paulsen explains the effects of Dirk's becoming his protector.

They [the gang] not only stopped hunting me but went out of their way to avoid me, or more specifically, Dirk. In fact after that winter and spring they never bothered me again, even after Dirk was gone.

Other times, you must infer the cause-and-effect relationship based on clues in the text and what you know.

Directions: Complete this chart to identify cause-and-effect relationships in the memoir. One example has been filled in for you.

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| <p>Trouble with parents at home</p> | <p>Paulsen moves into the basement</p> |
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