

Name _____

A **cause** is the reason why something happens. An **effect** is the result, or what happens. Many story events are connected through cause-and-effect relationships. Signal words such as *because*, *so*, *as a result* help readers identify cause-and-effect relationships.

Read the passage. On the lines below, write the most likely cause or effect.

Sherri's collie, Hap, was a talented herding dog. Hap's job was to run out to the field and gather the sheep every morning and evening. Hap nudged the sheep to get them to move.

One evening Hap ran up to Sherri, barking wildly and running in circles. Sherri grabbed her coat and ran after the dog. Hap led Sherri out to the field. None of the sheep were moving. Sherri followed Hap to the edge of a deep hole. "Now I see what's wrong," Sherri said. She slid down into the hole next to a little lamb that couldn't get out. "Good job, Hap," she said. Sherri carried the frightened creature out of the hole.

Sherri released the lamb back into the herd. The sheep started to move, and Hap urged them along. Now everyone would go home together.

1. **Cause:** _____

Effect: The sheep walked from the field to the ranch.

2. **Cause:** Hap barked wildly and ran in circles.

Effect: _____

3. **Cause:** Hap ran to the hole.

Effect: _____

4. **Cause:** _____

Effect: The sheep finally started to move.

