

*from the Tao Te Ching* by Lao Tzu

*from The Analects* by Confucius

## Reading Strategy: Questioning Causes and Effects

A **cause** is a reason for an action or condition. An **effect** is a result of an action or a condition. Philosophical writing often proposes causes or effects of certain situations. It is important to analyze such cause-and-effect relationships. Do they make sense? Why or why not? Thinking about those questions will help you become a more critical reader.

**DIRECTIONS:** In your text locate the statements that the following effect and cause refer to. For the cause, write the effect that the author presents. For the effect, write the cause that the author presents. In the third box, briefly explain why you agree or disagree with the cause-and-effect statement.

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	<p>You will be able to observe the manifestations of nature. — Lao Tzu, from the <i>Tao Te Ching</i>, Section I</p>	

<p>Enforce your rule through punishments. — Confucius, from <i>The Analects</i></p>	➡	=