Headline Match Writing Assignment

Below are two headlines from the Correlation or Causation page at http://jonathan.mueller.faculty.noctrl.edu/100/correlation_or_causation.htm

Headline #1: Recession causes increase in teen dating violence

Headline #2: Your parents are correct, scholars report: Studying pays off

For each headline separately, you'll write three paragraphs as follows:

1. Identify whether the headline makes either causal or correlational claims. Write a paragraph explaining why you think it is causal or correlational.

2. Click the link of the headline and read the news report. Does the research described in the news report adequately support the type of claim (correlational or causal) made in the headline? Write a paragraph explaining why you think the report does or doesn’t support the claim in the headline.

3. Click the link of the accompanying research report for each headline. Does the research described in the original report adequately support the type of claim made in the headline? Read the original research report, then write a paragraph explaining why you think it does or doesn’t support the claim.

Grading: In grading the reports, I will be looking for the following:

a. How well can you distinguish causal from correlational claims?
b. How well can you identify statements in news reports that make causal or correlational claims?
c. How well can you identify evidence in research reports that supports causal or correlational claims?
d. How well can you express yourself in writing (i.e., complete and logical sentences, careful attention to grammar and spelling).