Sample: Identifying Evidence about Causes

Rate the importance of each potential cause using the following scale

3	2	1	0
Major contributing	Fairly important	Very little importance	No indication of its
factor	factor		importance

Document # _____9

Potential causes	Rating	Evidence of importance as a factor in creating the Colony
Cause A: Fear of US annexation	3 2 1 0	The sudden rush of miners from the western United States to the region is likely to have raised fears of annexation and increased desire in British Columbia for protection and stability If not for the Gold Rush, some other event might have confirmed fear of annexation but Gold Rush was particularly dramatic because of scale in such a short time that it probably made colonization more likely
Cause B: Protection of gold	3 2 1 0	No evidence in the document
Cause C: Avoid conflict between Aboriginal people and miners	3 2 1 0	No evidence in the document
Cause D: End monopolies and promote free trade	3 2 1 0	As Prime Minister, Gladstone's comments would likely carry some weight. His comments that monopoly is outdated and hostile to public interest is consistent with testimony at the House of Commons committee. The attitudes towards the HBC seem to be supported by many sources and seem to reflect strongly held beliefs.