

Clauses of purpose, reason/cause and result/effect

I. Clauses of purpose

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IV. Other ways of expressing reason/cause

V. Clauses of result/effect

VI. Other ways of expressing result/effect

VII. Ways of expressing the relationship between cause/reason and result/effect

I. Clauses of purpose

1. Conjunctions and tenses

Independent clause	Conjunctions	Dependent clause
Present/ Present perfect/ Future	so that/in order that	can/will/may/shall + infinitive
Past/Past perfect/ Conditional	so that/in order that	could/would/might/should + infinitive

Example:

*The presenter spoke very slowly and clearly so that/in order that **everybody** could/would understand him.* (the presenter – everybody = two different subjects)

Notes:

- “in order that” and “may/might/shall/should” are **more formal** than “can/could/will/would”.
- In **negative sentences** “will/would/should” + **not** are used.
I helped her so that she wouldn't be the last to finish.
- In informal English “so” is commonly used instead of “so that/in order that”.
He wants a big car so he can impress his friend.

II. Other ways of expressing purpose

in order to/so as to/to + infinitive

Example:

*She worked hard **in order to/so as to** pass all her examinations before the end of the semester.*

= ***She** worked hard so that/in order that **she** would pass all her examinations before the end of the semester.* (the subject is the same: she)

With the **same subject** the **infinitive construction** is **more common** than the “so that/in order that” construction.

Notes:

- In **spoken English** **“to”** is **more common** than “in order to/so as to”.
*We have to hurry **to get** there before the beginning of the meeting.*

- However, **“to” cannot be used with a negative.**

*He spoke in a low voice **in order/so as not** to disturb us.*

(Not: He spoke in a low voice not to disturb us)

“not to” can be used to express **alternatives**:

*I went to the conference **not to give** a paper **but to present** a poster.*

III. Clauses of reason/cause

1. Conjunctions

because/as/since	protože
for	neboť

Example:

Many examination candidates lose/lost points because/as/since they do/did not read the questions properly.

Notes:

- In clauses of reason/cause, **any tense** can be used, depending on the context.
- Only **“because”** (not since/as/for) **is used** after **“not”**, **in questions, in answers to questions** and **in a few other cases**.

*He went there **not because** he wanted to, but because he had no other choice.*

- Remember that **“since”** also means **“od té doby, co”**.

Compare:

*Aircraft noise is a particular problem here **since** we're close to the airport. (= protože)*

*Aircraft has been a particular problem here **since** they built the new runways and air traffic increased considerably. (= od té doby, co)*

IV. Other ways of expressing reason/cause

1. Prepositions

because of	pro, kvůli
due to/owing to	pro, kvůli
thanks to	díky

Examples:

*He did not participate in the conference **because of/due to/owing to** ill health.
(= because he was ill)*

Thanks to his help, we were able to finish on time.

2. -ing and -ed forms

Examples:

*Not **knowing** the title of the book, I asked the librarian for help. (= as I didn't know)*

***Unconvinced** by the results of the experiment, he did not accept their theory.*

(= as he was not convinced)

3. Verbs

to cause/to bring about = způsobit

to be the cause of = být příčinou čeho

to result in = vést k, způsobit

Example:

*The accident **caused/brought about/was the cause of/resulted in** the death of two people.*

V. Clauses of result/effect

1. Conjunctions

so that	takže
so	takže, tak
so that	tak, že
such that	takový že

Examples:

*I didn't pass the examination at the first attempt, **so (that)** I had to resit it.*

*The problem was **so** complicated **that** none of us was able to solve it.*

*The system operates in **such** a way **that** it meets the main objectives.*

Notes:

- "**so**" is commonly used in **spoken English**.

- Compare: *He spoke clearly and slowly, **so (that)** we understood him.* (= result: takže)

*He spoke clearly and slowly **so that** we could/would understand him.*

(= purpose: aby)

In clauses of result, the independent clause is separated from the dependent clause by a comma, in clauses of purpose, it is not.

VI. Other ways of expressing result/effect

1. Linkers

therefore/hence/thence/whence	proto, tudíž
thus	a tak, tudíž
accordingly	proto, tedy, tudíž

as a result	v důsledku toho, proto
consequently/as a consequence	v důsledku toho, následkem toho

Example:

*In the last few years the company has innovated several of its products. **As a result/consequently**, its competitive edge has increased.*

See also A Remedial Course in English Grammar: Text structure (Linkers).

2. Verbs

result from/ensue from = být následkem čeho, být způsoben čím, plynout z čeho

be the result/the consequence of = být následkem/důsledkem čeho

be caused by/be due to = být způsoben čím

Example:

*The frequent breakdown of the system is **the result of/is due to/is caused by** poor maintenance.*

VII. Ways of expressing the relationship between cause/reason and result/effect

The driver was careless. The car crashed.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>The driver's carelessness</i> | caused | <i>the car crash.</i> |
| | brought about | |
| | was the cause of | |
| | resulted in | |
| 2. <i>The result of</i> | <i>the driver's carelessness</i> | <i>was the car crash.</i> |
| <i>The consequence of</i> | | |
| 3. <i>Owing to</i> | <i>the driver's carelessness</i> | <i>the car crashed.</i> |
| <i>Due to</i> | | |
| <i>Because of</i> | | |
| 4. <i>The driver was careless.</i> | As a result, | |
| | Consequently, | <i>the car crashed.</i> |
| | As a consequence, | |
| | Therefore | |
| | Thus | |
| 5. <i>The driver was careless,</i> | so (that) | <i>the car crashed.</i> |
| 6. As | <i>the driver was careless,</i> | <i>the car crashed.</i> |
| Because | | |
| Since | | |
| 7. <i>The car crash</i> | was the result of | <i>the driver's carelessness.</i> |
| | resulted from | |
| | was due to | |
| | was caused by | |
| | was the consequence of | |
| 8. <i>The cause of</i> | <i>the car crash</i> | <i>was the driver's carelessness.</i> |
| 9. <i>The car crashed</i> | owing to | <i>the driver's carelessness.</i> |
| | due to | |

because of
as a result of
as a consequence of

EXERCISES

I. Translate into English. Use the infinitive construction where possible.

1. Poslouchám BBC každý den, abych si zlepšil angličtinu.
.....

2. Zorganizovali jsme dny otevřených dveří, aby se studenti středních škol seznámili s naší fakultou, učiteli a studenty.
.....

3. Provedli jsme zahraniční studenty po naší fakultě, aby se tam snadno vyznali (si snadno našli cestu).
.....

4. Pracoval o prázdninách ve strojírenské firmě, aby získal pracovní zkušenosti.
.....

II. Reformulate the following sentences using prepositions instead of conjunctions.

1. As they are robust and easy to maintain, large induction motors are used in pumps in water and power systems.
.....

2. We decided not to use that system because it was not compatible with our equipment.
.....

3. The flight was cancelled because there were technical problems.
.....

4. He lost his job because he was incompetent.
.....

5. He had to reorganize the course because there were significant changes in the syllabus.
.....

III. Join each pair of sentences by using

in order that/so that

in order to/so as to/to

so (that)

as required by the context.

1. He took a course in programming. He wanted to get a better-paid job.
.....

2. The immigrants work very hard. They want their children to have a good education and a better life.
.....

3. He helped us with the calculations. As a result, we were able to keep the deadline.
.....

4. He hurried with the experiment. He wanted to be at home at 2 p.m.
.....

5. She spoke very loud. That's why even those sitting in the back row could hear her.
.....
6. She spoke very loud. She wanted even those sitting in the back row to hear her.
.....
7. He is saving. He wants to buy a 3D TV.
.....
8. She got up early. She didn't want to miss the beginning of the lecture.
.....
9. The manual was very confusing. I thought I would never be able to start the machine.
.....

IV.

Replace the expressions in bold with expressions in capitals and make all the necessary changes in sentence structure.

1. Most of the company's problems ensued from poor management. CAUSE (noun)
Poor management was the cause of most of the company's problems.
2. What **brought about** the rapid change? CAUSE (verb)
.....
3. Their application was rejected **owing to** a number of shortcomings. AS A RESULT OF
.....
4. He didn't hear the most interesting part of the lecture **as** he was late. THEREFORE
.....
5. **Since** the number of students interested in that course is small, it will not be opened. SO THAT
.....
6. Some of the study regulations were difficult to understand. **Accordingly**, explanatory notes were added. AS
.....
7. **Anticipating** problems of this kind, they did everything they could to prevent them. SINCE
.....
8. He was not eligible for that grant **due to** his age; **consequently**, his application was rejected. AS, OWING TO
.....
9. The machine failed because it was poorly maintained. DUE TO
.....
10. The trip had to be cancelled because of heavy rain. BECAUSE
.....

V. Join the sentences using 5 different ways of expressing cause/reason and result/effect.

1. We need more food. The population is steadily growing.
2. Her application for the job was rejected. She did not have the required language and computer skills.
3. The company went bankrupt. Many jobs were lost.
4. The train was delayed. There were wet leaves on the line.

VI. Reformulate the following sentences using the -ing and -ed forms as necessary.

1. Since I didn't know how it worked, I had to ask for help.

.....

2. As they were not aware of the error, they continued their calculations.

.....

3. Since it is regarded as highly efficient, this method is used by many researchers.

.....

4. They opened several new courses because they hoped to attract more students.

.....