

Unit 82: REASON & CONSEQUENCE

Here are some ways to connect two ideas when one idea is the cause (the reason why) and the other is the result (the consequence).

1

BASIC SENTENCE	because	+	REASON
It was difficult to follow him	because		he spoke very fast.
We put on lots of clothes	because		it was very cold.

Two other ways of saying **because** are **as** and **since**. We can use all of them before the basic sentence, too:

Because he spoke fast, it was difficult to follow him.

As it was very cold, we put on lots of clothes.

2

BASIC SENTENCE	so	+	CONSEQUENCE
Nobody answered the door,	so		I left a message and went away.
It was very cold,	so		we put on lots of clothes.

NOTICE: **Because** + REASON and **so** + CONSEQUENCE cannot make sentences alone. They must have a basic sentence with them.

3

REASON	As a result	+	CONSEQUENCE
The weather was terrible.	As a result,		the train was late.
He spoke very fast.	As a result,		we couldn't follow.

Two other ways of writing **as a result** are **consequently** and **therefore**. We use all of them mainly in writing.

BUT WE CANNOT USE *As a result* for consequences of personal decision. For example, the sentences in 2 above.

4

	so	+	ADJECTIVE or ADVERB	+	that	+	CONSEQUENCE
He spoke	so		fast		that		nobody could understand him.
It was	so		cold		that		I couldn't feel my hands or feet.
	such	+	NOUN PHRASE	+	that	+	CONSEQUENCE
He was	such		a fast speaker		that		nobody understood him.
It was	such		cold weather		that		I couldn't feel my hands.