

Using Causal Conjunctions



Causal conjunctions are used to explain how things work or why things happen.

I got soaking wet in the rain **because** I didn't have my umbrella with me.



I didn't have breakfast today, **so** I am really hungry now!



I am about to walk the dog **hence** my casual clothes and wellingtons.



Causal conjunctions can be:

Subordinating conjunctions

because
since
even though
as
now that

Coordinating conjunctions

so
yet

Adverbs/ Adverbials

accordingly
consequently
therefore
hence
as a result

Top tip:

Use a comma before a **coordinating conjunction** if it links two independent, complete 'thoughts', i.e. clauses with a subject and verb in each.

For example:

My hamster loved to play, **so** I gave him a spinning wheel.

Here 'so' links two independent clauses.



Causal conjunctions link clauses and can be used in the middle of a sentence.

My watch is not broken **even though** I dropped it onto the floor.



I don't enjoy TV, **so** I have chosen to read tonight.



Causal conjunctions can also be used at the beginning of a sentence to refer to the sentence before.

I dropped my watch on the floor. **Consequently**, it is broken.

Andy broke his leg recently. **Accordingly**, he is unable to ski at the moment.

The school heating is not working. **As a result of this**, the building is closed today.



Causal conjunctions which are also conjunctions can be used to link clauses in the middle or at the beginning of a sentence.

For example:

She is going to bed, **so** she won't be tired tomorrow.

So she won't be tired tomorrow, she is going to bed now.

Dad was late for work **because** he missed the train.

Because he missed the train, Dad was late for work.

Tom didn't eat his sandwich **as** he wasn't very hungry.

As he wasn't very hungry, Tom didn't eat his sandwich.



Using Causal Conjunctions Quiz



Causal Conjunctions can be:

a) Subordinating conjunctions

b) Coordinating conjunctions

c) adverbs/adverbials

d) all three

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Which sentence uses a conjunction accurately?

We are going for a picnic the weather is so nice.

Since the weather is so nice, we are going for a picnic.

The weather is so nice since we are going for a picnic.

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I visited the British Museum. I am interested in History.

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Which causal conjunction is missing?

As a result of

because

Therefore

as

Consequently

1. her injury, Sandy had to withdraw from the swimming competition.
2. The brakes do not work. the car is unsafe to drive.
3. I am wearing sunscreen today it is very hot.
4. Our teacher is not in school today he is ill.
5. Sal revised carefully. , she did well in her exams.

Which causal conjunction is missing?

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because

Therefore

as

Consequently

1. **As a result of** her injury, Sandy had to withdraw from the swimming competition.
2. The brakes do not work. **Therefore** the car is unsafe to drive.
3. I am wearing sunscreen today **as** it is very hot.
4. Our teacher is not in school today **because** he is ill.
5. Sal revised carefully. **Consequently**, she did well in her exams.

