

Academic Year: 2022/2023

## Expressing Cause and Effect

When we talk about a situation that makes another situation happen, we talk about **cause and effect**.

In English we use certain expressions to express cause and effect.

### 1/ Cause:

As/since	Because of	Owing to/ due to	Out of	That's why/ that's the reason why	For fear of	For+V-ing	Seeing that
----------	------------	---------------------	--------	---	-------------	-----------	-------------

### Examples:

- **Since** you don't believe me, I won't give evidence.
- **Because of** his lack of training, he had difficulties finding a job.
- He gave him his jacket **out of** pity.
- **Due to** the bad weather, we didn't go for a walk.
- Billy was punished **for lying** to his teacher.
- **Owing to** the snow, the planes couldn't take off.
- **As** you are a foreigner, you can't express your opinions on the situation in the area.
- **Seeing that** you aren't interested, I'll do it by myself.

### Conclusions:

**Because/ because of/ as/since/owing to/due to/seeing that/for fear of/out of** can be used both at the beginning or at the middle of the sentence.

**Because/as /since/that's why** are followed by subject+verb+ the rest of the sentence.

**Because of/owing to/due to/ out of/ for fear of/ seeing that** are followed by **Noun phrase**  
Or by **a gerund (stem+ing)**  
Or by **The fact that+ subject+verb**

Academic Year: 2022/2023

**2/ Effect:**

As a result	As a consequence	consequently	If...then	There fore
-------------	------------------	--------------	-----------	------------

**Examples:**

- He missed the early train, **as a result** he was too late for the job interview.
- The result of his trial, **therefore**, could hardly have been other than a foregone conclusion.
- **If** he locked the door, **then** Kitty is trapped inside.

**Conclusions:**

**As a result/ as a consequence/ consequently / therefore** can only be used at the middle of the sentence, never at the beginning.

**Exercices:**

**(a) Underline the cause and highlight its effect in each of the following sentences.**

1. Her computer stopped working due to a virus.
2. The police arrested him because he committed a crime.
3. Owing to the lack of customers, the restaurant closed down this week.
4. Since she is scared of clowns, she never goes to the circus.
5. He passed his first year at university; as a result, his parents bought him a car.

**(b) Read through the following passage, underlining causes and highlighting effects.**

I woke up late this morning **because** my alarm clock did not ring. **As a result**, I had to rush to get ready for school and I made a huge mess all over the house. I missed the bus **because** I had to go back home to fetch my cell phone. **Consequently**, I was late for school, and my lecturer was not pleased with me at all. **Due to the fact that** my day had been going so badly, I was in a bad mood and I shouted at my friends. **Since** I was in such a bad mood, they didn't want to hang out with me and

Academic Year: 2022/2023

they left. After they left, my day only got worse. **In view of** all that happened today, I've decided that I need two alarm clocks instead of one, to make sure I wake up on time in the mornings.

**Now, tabulate your causes and the related effects using a table similar to the one**

Cause	Effect
My alarm clock did not ring	I woke up late.