

Lesson three:

Grammar: Time sequencers and connectors

TIME SEQUENCERS

Read the examples:

On our first date we went to the cinema. **After that** we started meeting every day.

On Thursday I had an argument with my boss. **Next day** I decided to look for a new job.

We sat down to eat. **Two minutes later** the phone rang.

When I came out of the club he was waiting for me.

The accident happened **when** I was crossing the road.

- We use time sequencers to say when or in what order things happen.
- We use *when* as a time sequencer and also to join two actions.

I was watching TV when the phone rang. (two verbs joined by *when*)



then, after that

The most common way of linking consecutive actions is with *then* or *after that*, but **NOT** with *after*, e.g. *I got up and got dressed. Then / After that I made a cup of coffee.* **NOT** *After I made a cup of coffee.*

CONNECTORS

Read the examples:

- She was driving fast **because** she was in a hurry. (reason)
- She was in a hurry, **so** she was driving fast. (result)

- Use *because* to express a reason.
- Use *so* to express a result.

- She tried to stop the car, **but** she hit the man.
- **Although** she tried to stop the car, she hit the man.
- She was very tired, **but** she couldn't sleep.
- She couldn't sleep, **although** she was very tired.

- Use *but* and *although* to show a contrast.
- *Although* can go at the beginning or in the middle of a sentence.

Why was she going very fast?
Because she was in a hurry.

2C One dark October evening

1 GRAMMAR

time sequencers and connectors

- a **1.45** Read the story once. Then complete it with a word or phrase from the box. Listen to the story and check.

After that Next day One evening in October
Suddenly Two minutes later When

- b With a partner, answer the questions.
- 1 Why did Hannah go and speak to Jamie?
 - 2 Why did Jamie play *Blue As Your Eyes*?
 - 3 What happened when Hannah left the club?
 - 4 What was the restaurant like?
 - 5 Where did they go every evening after that?
 - 6 What was the weather like that evening?
 - 7 Why was Hannah driving fast?
 - 8 Why didn't she see the man?
- c From memory complete these sentences from the story with *so*, *because*, or *although*. Then check with the story.
- 1 She was going very fast _____ she was in a hurry.
 - 2 _____ the food wasn't very good, they had a wonderful time.
 - 3 He was wearing a dark coat, _____ Hannah didn't see him at first.
- d **p.128 Grammar Bank 2C.** Learn more about time sequencers and connectors and practise them.
- e Complete the sentences in your own words. Then compare with a partner.
- 1 They fell in love on their first date. Two months later...
 - 2 I went to bed early last night because...
 - 3 The weather was beautiful, so we decided...
 - 4 It was really cold that night, and when I woke up next morning...
 - 5 Although we didn't play well in the final...
 - 6 I was driving along the motorway listening to the radio. Suddenly...

Hannah met Jamie in the summer of 2010. It was Hannah's 21st birthday and she and her friends went to a club. They wanted to dance, but they didn't like the music, so Hannah went to speak to the DJ. 'This music is awful,' she said. 'Could you play something else?' The DJ looked at her and said, 'Don't worry, I have the perfect song for you.'

¹ *Two minutes later*, he said, 'The next song is by Scouting For Girls. It's called *Blue As Your Eyes* and it's for a beautiful girl who's dancing over there.' Hannah knew that the song was for her. ² _____ Hannah and her friends left the club, the DJ was waiting for her at the door. 'Hi, I'm Jamie,' he said to Hannah. 'Can I see you again?' So Hannah gave him her phone number.

³ _____ Jamie phoned Hannah and invited her to dinner. He took her to a very romantic French restaurant and they talked all evening. Although the food wasn't very good, they had a wonderful time. ⁴ _____ Jamie and Hannah saw each other every day. Every evening when Hannah finished work they met at 5.30 in a coffee bar in the high street. They were madly in love.

⁵ _____, Hannah was at work. As usual she was going to meet Jamie at 5.30. It was dark and it was raining. She looked at her watch. It was 5.20! She was going to be late! She ran to her car and got in. At 5.25 she was driving along the high street.

She was going very fast because she was in a hurry.

⁶ _____, a man ran across the road. He was wearing a dark coat, so Hannah didn't see him at first. Quickly, she put her foot on the brake...

