

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.

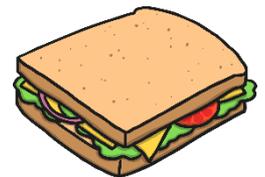
So she won't be tired tomorrow, she is going to bed now.

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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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.

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

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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. She revised carefully she did well in her exams.

Which causal conjunction is missing?

As a result of

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.