

Discovery Lesson on
Expressing Cause and Effect:
Discovering Effective Sentence Patterns

Lead-in

Exercise 1

Work in groups. Read the following sentences and identify causes and effects that they describe. Underline each cause and circle each effect.

- a. Since the movie “The Same Old Story” was not very successful, the producers decided not to make a sequel.
- b. Due to very low enrollment, Dr. Spark’s course will be offered only in the summer.
- c. Ruben’s sandwich bar received glowing reviews. Consequently, more people wanted to try his famous cucumber and apricot jam sandwich.
- d. The newlyweds misplaced their passports. As a result, they had to cancel their honeymoon in Iceland.

Exercise 2

In your group, identify expressions which signal causes and effects in the sentences above. List them below.

TO EXPRESS CAUSE: _____

TO EXPRESS EFFECT: _____

Presentation: Discovering the Topic

Exercise 1

Look at the sentences from the previous section and together with a partner complete the following paragraph.

There are a few ways to write sentences which express cause and _____. In order to write them effectively, certain expressions can be used. For example, to signal a cause, we may use the phrase “_____” and to introduce an effect, we can begin a sentence with “_____.” It is also important to know how those expressions are used and how to punctuate those sentences correctly.

Presentation: Discovering Sentence Patterns

Exercise 1

Work with a partner. Study more examples of sentences expressing cause and effect and this time pay close attention to the patterns used in the sentences. Complete the sentence pattern given under each sentence. Notice how commas are used.

- a. The plane was delayed. **As a result,** *I had to wait for five hours.*

PATTERN: One sentence. **Expression of** _____ + , + *clause.*

- b. **Because** the soup was very hot, I burned my tongue.

PATTERN: **Expression of** _____ + *clause* + , + *clause.*

- c. **Due to** a misunderstanding, *my job application was turned down.*

PATTERN: Expression of _____ + noun + _____ + *clause.*

d. Since she's a very popular singer, she is recognized by everyone in her city.

PATTERN: Expression of _____ + _____ + , + _____ .

e. He was exhausted. Consequently, he immediately fell asleep.

PATTERN: _____ . Expression of _____ + , + _____ .

e. Because of a heavy traffic, Mary was late to work.

PATTERN: Expression of _____ + noun + , + _____ .

Exercise 2

Work in a group and compare your answers. Now you are ready to complete the table below. The table shows three basic sentence pattern you have been studying. Decide which expressions can be used in which sentence pattern. Complete the table with the expressions listed below.

due to since consequently as a result because because of

A Sentence. Expression + , + clause	B Expression + noun + , + clause	C Expression + clause + , + clause

And which column do you think these expressions belong to?

therefore as as a result of

Practice

Exercise 1

Work individually. The following information presents causes and effects of shopping online. Study the information and complete the following sentences.

wide variety of products

easy to compare prices

SHOPPING ONLINE

save time

*products delivered directly
to your home*

- a. _____ a wide variety of products offered on the internet,
buying online is quite popular.
- b. _____ . _____ ,
buying online can save you money.
- c. _____ products are delivered directly to your home, online
shopping is quite convenient.
- d. _____ . _____ ,
you can have more time for hobbies.

Compare your sentences with your partner's answers.

Exercise 2

Work individually. Use the following ideas to compose sentences that follow a pattern from the suggested columns (refer to the table you completed today).

Example:

The flight was cancelled. There was a strike.

(A) There was a strike. Consequently, the flight was cancelled.

(B) As a result of a strike, the flight was cancelled.

(C) Since there was a strike, the flight was cancelled.

He lost his ticket. He couldn't board the plane.

(A) _____

(C) _____

There was a thick fog. The traffic had to slow down.

(B) _____

(C) _____

Production

Work with your partner. Think of causes and effects of losing a job. Note your ideas below.

LOSING A JOB

Now write three well-structured sentences expressing cause and effect. Make sure each sentence follows a different pattern, uses a different linking expression, and is punctuated correctly.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____
