



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

CAUSE AND EFFECT EXPRESSIONS

Nothing happens without a reason or without some kind of consequence. When you explain **why** things happen and **what** occurs when they do, the technique you use is called **cause and effect**. **Cause** is **why** something happened. **Effect** is the **result** of what happened. Because effects always have causes and causes always lead to effects, we rarely see one without the other.

- A cause is what makes something happen. To find the cause, you need to ask yourself, “What happened first?”.
- An effect is what happens because of something else (the cause). To find the effect, you need to ask yourself, “What happened second?”.

There are signal words that will help you to identify the two parts of a cause/effect relationship. The most common signal words are: because, if, when, so, then.

Example

I stayed home from school **because** I had the flu.

My sister was scared of the mouse, **so** she yelled for help.

If you study hard you will pass the test.

When it was raining people carried umbrella with them.

Complete the work and **then** go home.

When we talk about an effect resulting from a certain cause, we use expressions such as: **because, since, as, owing to, due to...**

Examples

- The police arrested him **because** he broke into a bank.
- The police arrested him **since** he broke into a bank.
- She can't read the letter **as** she is illiterate.
- He can't run fast **for** he is too fat.
- **Owing to** his intelligence, he managed to solve the problem.
- **Due to** the bad weather, they didn't go for a picnic.



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Is there a difference between **due to** and **owing to**?

Owing to and **due to** are used interchangeably by native speakers although some state that there is a difference.

a. Due to:

If you can use **caused by** then you can also use **due to**:

Example:

"The cancellation of the flight was **due to (caused by)** high winds."

b. Owing to:

If you can use **because of** then you should use **owing to** rather than **due to**:

Example:

"The flight was canceled **owing to (because of)** high winds."

Use of **thanks to**

People tend to use **thanks to** in positive situations.

Example:

"Thanks to his intelligence he managed to find the solution to that math problem."

Sometimes **thanks to** is used ironically in a negative way.

Cause and Effect Expressions

Exercise 1

Write your own effect for each cause. Use your imagination and write a complete sentence.

1.	Cause: The sun is shining.
	Effect: _____
2.	Cause: Jacob heard a bell ring.
	Effect: _____
3.	Cause: Ramon loves animals.
	Effect: _____
4.	Cause: Kara put a book and snack in her backpack.
	Effect: _____



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5. **Cause:** I planted some seeds.

Effect: _____

6. **Cause:** Jake would not go to bed.

Effect: _____

7. **Cause:**

Effect: _____

Exercise 2

Write the cause and effect for each sentence.

1. The girl played in the mud and got dirty.

Cause: _____

Effect: _____

2. I left my clothes on the floor, so I had to do extra chores.

Cause: _____

Effect: _____

3. The air became cold, so the girl put on a coat.

Cause: _____

Effect: _____



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4. Jim is scared because it is dark.

Cause:

Effect:

5. The boy ate so much candy, he felt sick.

Cause:

Effect:

Exercise 3

Write a positive effect for each cause. Use your imagination and write a complete sentence.

1. **Cause:** The cat crossed the street.

Positive Effect:

2. **Cause:** Brandon mixed red paint with blue paint.

Positive Effect:

3. **Cause:** My school is very small.

Positive Effect:

4. **Cause:** A storm is coming.

Positive Effect:



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5. **Cause:** Dirk yelled, "look out!" as he jumped into the pool.

Positive Effect: _____

6. **Cause:** The fish ate a worm.

Positive Effect: _____

7. **Cause:** The bird landed on the branch.

Positive Effect: _____

8. **Cause:** Erica made cookies.

Positive Effect: _____

Exercise 4

Write one positive and one negative effect for each cause. Use your imagination and write complete sentences.

1. **Cause:** The cat crossed the street.

Positive Effect: _____

Negative Effect: _____

2. **Cause:** I wore a red shirt.

Positive Effect: _____

Negative Effect: _____



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3. **Cause:** Judd brushed his teeth.

Positive Effect: _____

Negative Effect: _____

4. **Cause:** The bird landed on the branch.

Positive Effect: _____

Negative Effect: _____

5. **Cause:** The bee flew to its hive.

Positive Effect: _____

Negative Effect: _____

Exercise 5

Read the paragraph and answer the questions.

1. A seed falls down. Rain soaks it. The sun warms it. Roots grow. It becomes a plant!

Why did roots grow?

Why do seeds fall?

2. Jim is fishing at the pond. He has a rod with a hook. He forgot the worms. He didn't catch a fish.

Why didn't Jim catch a fish?



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What happened when Jim went fishing?

3. My feet were hot. I took off my shoes and socks. Ah, that feels better!

Why did the writer take off his shoes?

Why did the writer's feet feel better?

Exercise 6

Write a negative effect for each cause. Use your imagination and write a complete sentence.

1. **Cause:** Judd brushed his teeth.

Negative Effect: _____

2. **Cause:** Erica made cookies.

Negative Effect: _____

3. **Cause:** My school is very small.

Negative Effect: _____

4. **Cause:** The boy tried to leap over the stream.

Negative Effect: _____



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5. **Cause:** Mike hit a home run.

Negative Effect: _____

6. **Cause:** The snake laid eggs.

Negative Effect: _____

7. **Cause:** Dirk yelled, "look out!" as he jumped into the pool.

Negative Effect: _____

8. **Cause:** A storm is coming.

Negative Effect: _____

Exercise 7

Each sentence describes an effect. Write your own cause. Use your imagination and write a complete sentence.

1. **Cause:** _____

Effect: Our morning newspaper is wet.

2. **Cause:** _____

Effect: Some flowers are growing.

3. **Cause:** _____

Effect: He jumped over it.

4. **Cause:** _____

Effect: The dog panted.



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5.	Cause: _____
	Effect: The glass window cracked.
6.	Cause: _____
	Effect: The man cut it.
7.	Cause: _____
	Effect: _____

Puzzles

Match the effect with its cause.

- | <u>Effect</u> | <u>Cause</u> |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. _____ A bee lands on the rose. | a. Jacinta is out of breath. |
| 2. _____ The cat lapped it up. | b. The boy spilled his milk. |
| 3. _____ The glass window cracked. | c. The pig lies in the mud. |
| 4. _____ She ran up the stairs. | d. The rose blooms. |
| 5. _____ The kite flew! | e. The wind blew. |
| 6. _____ It looked neat. | f. I stayed up late. |
| 7. _____ I am very tired. | g. The girl made the bed. |

