

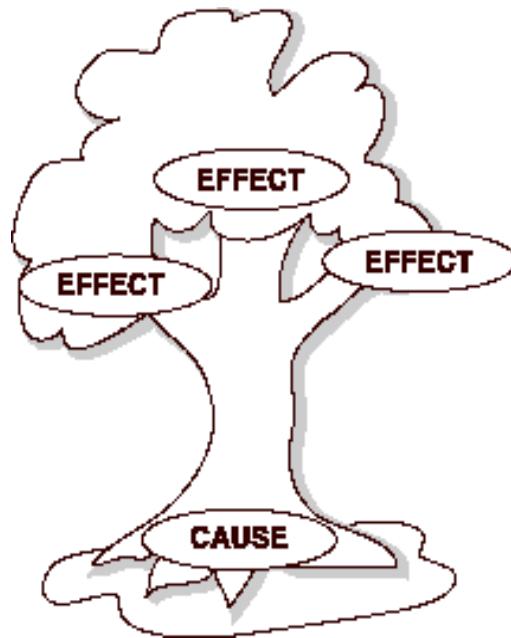
# Talking about cause and effect

## Cause and effect

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.



## Other ways to express cause and effect:

You can also express cause and effect as follows:

- The **cause** of... is...
- ...is cause by...
- due to
- because of
- owing to
- thanks to
- as a consequence of
- as a result of
- because
- since
- as
- for

Examples:

The cause of	global warming	is pollution.
Global warming	is caused by	pollution. is due to

Thanks to his hard work , he passed the exam

### 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

**Example:**

"Did she lose the election?"

"Yeah, thanks to you and to all the others who didn't bother to vote."

"The baby is awake thanks to your shouting."

## Things to remember about cause and effect:

- a. Due to, because of, owing to and thanks to are followed by a noun.
- b. Because, since, as, for are followed by a verb.

Due to	+ Noun
Because of	
Owing to	
Thanks to	

because	Subject + Verb
since	
as	
for	

### Examples:

- Due to **his laziness**, he didn't pass the exam.
- Thanks to **her beauty**, she attracted the attention of all the guests.
- Because / since /as / they **are** in love, they forgive each other's mistakes.

Although	I felt tired,	I decided to go to the party.
She didn't go to the party	because	she felt tired.
Due to	the bad weather	the picnic was cancelled
Despite	feeling tired	I went to the party.
She felt tired after her long journey.	Therefore	she decided not to go to the party.
I felt tired after a long day at work.	However,	I went to the party because I wanted to see Janine.
Parties can be fun when you're in the right mood.	On the other hand,	when you're tired they can be a strain.

**EXERCISE:**

**Linkers – contrast, addition, reason and result**

*What is the relationship between the pairs of sentences below - contrast, addition or reason and result?*

*Use a linking expression to make the relationship between the ideas more clear.*

The *Trocadero Plaza* is popular with shoppers.  
The *Trocadero Plaza* has good public transport.

Most tourists go to Golden Sands Beach.  
Golden Sands Beach is one of the most polluted in the country.

I'm going to do a course in Italian next year.  
I'm going to improve my Mandarin next year.

I'm not very good at languages.  
I'm going to do a course in Mandarin next year.

I'm quite good at languages.  
I'm going to take courses in Korean, Japanese and French next year.

The traffic was terrible this morning.  
I managed to get to work on time.

The traffic was terrible this morning.  
I was about 25 minutes late for work.

Smoking is bad for your health.  
Smoking is antisocial because many people find it unpleasant.  
Smoking is a waste of money.

I don't think Charlie Wong would be a good candidate for this job.  
He is hard working and reliable.  
He has no experience in this area.  
He has never shown the slightest interest in this kind of work.

He is rather old.

### Some possible answers (There are many others)

The *Trocadero Plaza* is popular with shoppers because it has good public transport.

Most tourists go to Golden Sands Beach.  
However, it is one of the most polluted in the country.

I'm going to do a course in Italian next year.  
I'm also going to improve my Mandarin.

I'm not very good at languages so  
I'm going to do a course in Mandarin next year.

*OR (depending on how you look at it)*

Although I'm not very good at languages,  
I'm going to do a course in Mandarin next year.

I'm quite good at languages so  
I'm going to take courses in Korean, Japanese and French next year.  
*OR (depending on how you look at it)*

Even though I'm quite good at languages,  
I'm going to take courses in Korean, Japanese and French next year.

Although the traffic was terrible this morning,  
I managed to get to work on time.

The traffic was terrible this morning.  
Therefore, I was about 25 minutes late for work.

Smoking is bad for your health and it is antisocial because many people find it unpleasant.  
Besides, it is a waste of money.

I don't think Charlie Wong would be a good candidate for this job.  
Although he is hard working and reliable, he has no experience in this area  
and he has never shown the slightest interest in this kind of work.  
Besides, he is rather old.

