

Cause-and-Effect Linking Words

There are three main types of linking words: **conjunctions**, **transitions**, and **prepositions**.

1. Conjunctions - because, as, since, and so.

“Because”, “as”, and “since” introduce a **clause**; “so” introduces an **effect**. These are used to join two complete sentences (or independent clauses) together. For example:

I stayed at home **because** it was raining. (can reverse the word order)
It was raining, **so** I stayed at home. (use a comma before “so”)

2. Transitions - therefore, consequently, and as a result.

They introduce an **effect** too. These are used to join two complete sentences (or independent clauses) together. They are often used like this. For example:

It was raining; **therefore**, I stayed home.
It was raining. **Consequently**, I stayed at home.

3. Prepositions - due to and because of.

Both of these introduce a **cause** in the form of a **noun phrase**. They are often used like this. For example:

I stayed at home **due to** the rain.
Because of the rain, I stayed at home.

Exercises: Complete the sentences

John was fired...

Soledad retired...

We had to cancel the trip...

The match was cancelled...

I was late...

He must be asleep...

I decided to call it a day...

I helped him....

He didn't pay his rent...

We will have to stay at home...

I had a headache this morning...