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Research
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وزارة التعليم العالي والبحث العلمي
جامعه المستقبل/كلية التربية
قسم اللغة الإنجليزية

Explination and Effects

اعداد

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7th lecture

Writing in Paragraphs

7 Explanations and Excuses

In this unit, you will ...

- develop paragraphs which explain cause and effect / result.
- combine sentences with *so* and *because*.
- practise further with word maps and freewriting.
- write a paragraph about explanations and excuses.

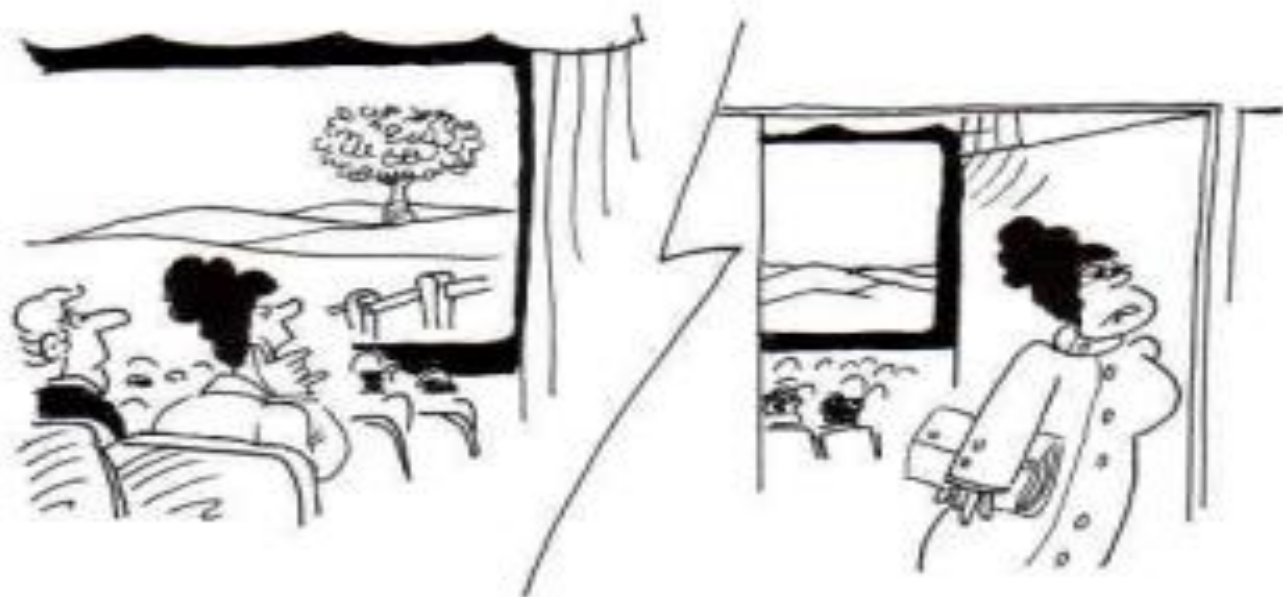
- 1 Describe this picture to a partner. Guess what the problem is. Tell your partner what you think the people are saying.



- 2 Read the paragraph and check your guess.

It Wasn't My Fault!

¹ Teachers should be understanding when students can't complete assignments on time. ² I couldn't do the writing homework for English class today, and my teacher didn't want to hear my reasons. ³ I had good reasons, too. ⁴ Last night was Evan's birthday. ⁵ He's my best friend, so I had to go to his party. ⁶ After the party, I tried to do the homework, but my computer froze and I lost all the information. ⁷ I was too tired to write it again because it was very late. ⁸ My teacher didn't care. ⁹ She said, 'You had two weeks to do the assignment, so there are no excuses.' ¹⁰ I think she's angry with me, but it wasn't my fault.



- 5 Write a sentence using *so* and another sentence using *because* for these situations.

a. The film was boring. I left early.

The film was boring, so I left early.

I left early because the film was boring.

b. We played badly. We lost the football match.

c. I failed the test. I didn't study hard.

d. My alarm clock didn't work. I was late for the meeting.

e. I am shy. I don't have a girlfriend.

f. I won't go to the party. I'm tired.



Mastering Cause & Effect Writing

In this unit, you will ...
develop paragraphs which explain cause and effect / result,
combine sentences with so and because.
practice further with word maps and free writing.
write a paragraph about explanations and excuse
We will develop explanatory paragraphs and learn to combine
sentences effectively. We will also explore creative idea
generation techniques.

Understanding Cause and Effect



Cause and Effect Defined

A cause is the reason something happens. An effect is the resulting outcome. Understanding this link is crucial.



Real-World Example

Heavy rain is the cause, leading directly to flooding as its effect. This highlights their direct relationship.



Strengthening Writing

Identifying these relationships clearly strengthens our arguments. It adds clarity and coherence to our prose.



Developing Cause & Effect Paragraphs

Start with a Clear Topic

Begin with a concise topic sentence. It sets the stage for the paragraph's focus.

Provide Specific Evidence

Support your claims with concrete examples. Use compelling data or observations.

Use Transition Words

Employ words like 'because', 'therefore', and 'as a result'. They ensure smooth connections.

Maintain Logical Flow

Organise your ideas cohesively. Ensure causes and effects link seamlessly.

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Combining Sentences with 'So' and 'Because'

'Because' for Cause

'Because' introduces the reason. For example, "I was late because of traffic."

'So' for Effect

'So' introduces the consequence. For example, "It rained, so the match was cancelled."

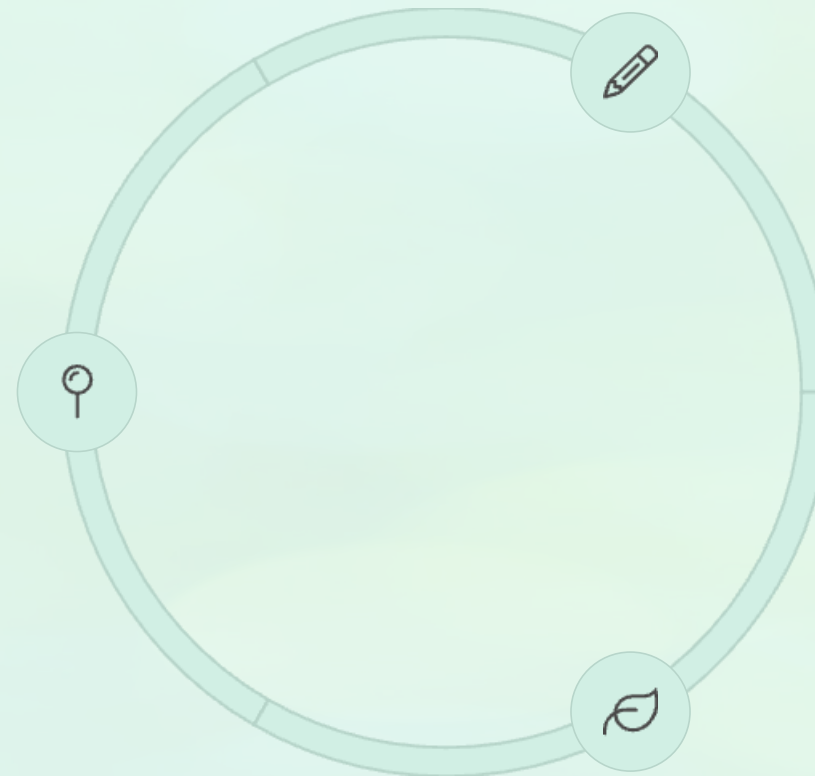
Practice Combining

Combine "He studied hard. He passed the exam." Use both 'so' and 'because'.

Word Maps and Freewriting

Word Maps

Visualise connections between concepts.
This aids in structuring complex ideas.



Freewriting

Write continuously without stopping. This helps generate a flow of ideas quickly.

Example: Pollution

Map "Pollution" to "Air, Water, Land, Health". Then freewrite on each aspect.

A photograph of a dirt path in a forest. The path splits into two directions. On the left side of the path, there is a wooden signpost with a sign that says 'Explanation'. On the right side, there is another wooden signpost with a sign that says 'Excuse'. The path is surrounded by tall trees and green foliage, with sunlight filtering through the leaves.

Explanations vs. Excuses

Explanation

An explanation clarifies why an event occurred. It provides facts and context for understanding.

Excuse

An excuse attempts to shift blame or avoid responsibility. It seeks to justify actions.

Example Contrast

"Train delayed due to signalling issues" is an explanation. "Alarm didn't go off" is an excuse.



Writing Explanations and Excuses



Be Clear

Write precisely and concisely. Avoid ambiguity in your statements.



Provide Details

Include relevant information. Avoid exaggerating or omitting facts.



Acknowledge Responsibility

Accept blame when appropriate. This builds trust and credibility.

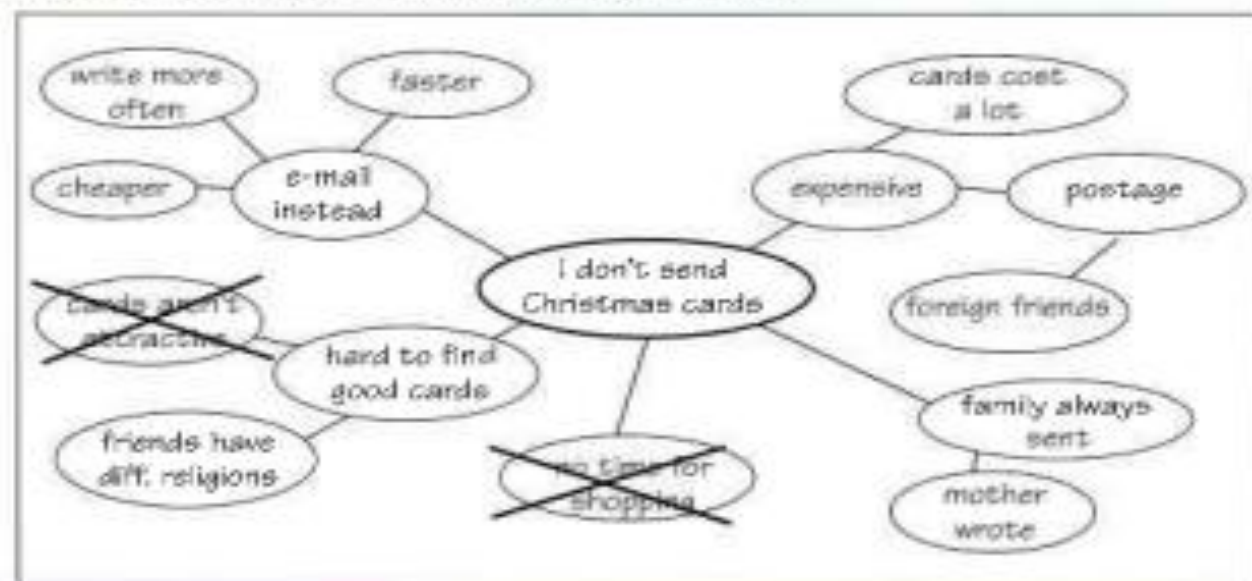


Focus on Facts

Base explanations on objective truths. Avoid subjective interpretations.

Brainstorming: Practice with word maps and freewriting

8 Look at this word map and answer the questions below.



- What is the writer's topic?
- How many examples does the writer have?
- Why did the writer cross out some ideas?

9 Read this paragraph. Were your guesses from exercise 8 above correct? Look at the word map again, and write a topic sentence for the paragraph. Then complete the paragraph with *so* or *because*.

Why I Don't Send Christmas Cards

My family has always sent Christmas cards to friends.

One reason is that I have friends all over the world, ^a sending cards to them would be expensive. In addition, it's difficult to choose the right cards

^b my friends have different religious beliefs.

Finally, I e-mail my friends almost every week. ^c I contact them so often, I don't have anything special to say at holiday times. Even though I don't send Christmas cards, I am still close to my friends.

10 Look at this picture, and think about what is happening.



11 Freewrite for five minutes about how the driver explains the cause of the accident.

Remember

When you are freewriting, ...

- write for five minutes without stopping
- write as much as you can. You can cross out ideas you don't like later.
- don't worry about spelling, grammar, or organization.

12 Check and edit your freewriting. Using your ideas, write at least three sentences with *so* or *because*. Then share your sentences with a partner or small group.



Summary & Q&A

Unit Recap

We explored cause and effect, sentence combining, and brainstorming. These are vital writing tools.

Your Questions

Now, it's time for your questions. Let's discuss anything unclear from this unit.



Distinguishing Terms

We learned the key differences between explanations and excuses. This helps in clear communication.