



Unit 58 – Adverbs of Purpose (*Because of the weather.. She studies to improve herself..*)

Adverbs of purpose (or, adverbs of *reason*) are used to explain why an occurrence happens, or is the case.

A) The subordinating conjunctions **because**, **as** and **since** are used to create adverbial clauses that indicate reason:

-> I was tired **because** I was out in the sun all day. **As** it was raining out, it took longer to get to work.

-> **Since** I got an 'A' on my final exam, my parents treated me to my favorite restaurant. Take note that:

i) It is grammatically correct for **because** to begin a sentence:

-> **Because** friendships enhance our lives, it is important to maintain them.

ii) However, **so** can also be used to express the same meaning:

-> Friendships enhance our lives, **so** it is important to maintain them.

iii) **Since** can also mean **because**, however it tends to be used in a more formal context:

-> I had to get up early this morning **because** I had a 9am class. -> '*since*' is less likely here

-> **Since** whales do not have gills, they cannot breathe underwater. -> more likely than '*because*'

Note: -> 'seeing that' can be used to mean the same (*formally*): -> **Seeing that** Mike is ill, he won't attend today.

'So that' / 'in order that' can also be used to discuss purpose. This pattern is often used with modal verbs:

-> We left the house early **so (that)** we *would* arrive on time. note: *.. 'that'* can be left out (*more casual*).

This pattern can also be used to refer to information regarding nouns / noun phrases:

-> Both parties must work together **in order that** *agreement* can be reached on this issue.

-> We left the address on the table **so (that)** / **in order that** *Cathy* could find the restaurant easily.

B) Adverbial phrases of purpose – usually occur at the end of the clause, after the verb or adjective they modify:

i) Prepositional phrases – The most frequently used of these phrases is *because of*:

-> She stopped the medication **because of** its side effects. **Because of** her warning, I drove carefully.

Other adverb phrases of purpose include *for*, *given*, *owing to*, and *due to*. For example:

-> On November 11th, we honor those soldiers who sacrificed their lives **for** our country.

-> **Given** the right environment, children will soak up information and learn quickly.

-> **Due to** the rain, the match was canceled. Roads are closed **owing to** high snow drifts.

Note: -> the 'be verb' is commonly used before *due to* but generally not before *owing to*:

-> The importance of the city **is due to** its geographical location. not: *..is owing to its geographical..*

Degree adverbs (largely, mainly, entirely, partly, etc.) are often used for emphasis: 'be + degree adverb + due to':

-> Michael Jordan's success **was mainly due to** his focus, determination and tireless work ethic.

ii) Infinitive Phrases – in addition to the 'to-infinitive', we can also add *in order (to)* and *so as (to)* beforehand:

-> I started taking ginseng **to boost** my energy. I write notes **to remind** myself to do things later.

-> I often meditate **in order to relax**. We left early **so as to arrive** on time.

However, in negative sentences, 'not' comes before the 'to' when using *in order* and *so as*:

-> Please talk quietly in the library (**in order not to** / **so as not to**) **disturb** others.

Tip: -> Lone Infinitives – we use infinitives as isolated responses when asking *why* something is done or *is the case*:

For example: -> Mike: Why are you going to New York this weekend? Jared: **To see** a Yankees game!

C) Conjunctive adverbs of purpose – indicate the result of an action or situation between two independent clauses.

Conjunctive adverbs of purpose used can be *thus*, *therefore*, *consequently*, and *as a result*. (*with a formal tone*)

-> I had to work on Saturday **so** I couldn't go biking in the afternoon. (*'so' is most often used; casual tone*)

-> Jenn really enjoyed the lotion; **as a result/therefore/thus/consequently**, she recommended it to me.

Note that the above sentence uses a semicolon(;) to separate the independent clauses. Two, separate sentences

can also be used with no change in meaning: *The market has been deteriorating. **Thus**, we've decided to pull out.*

Non-conjunctive adverbs of purpose – It is also possible to use many of the adverbs above in a non-conjunctive manner, especially when modifying an adjective from a previous part of the sentence. For example:

-> The woodwork in this store is handcrafted and therefore/thus/consequently very expensive.



Unit 58 – Exercises:

58.1 – Match the following sentences by writing **because** or **because of** in the blanks. Where appropriate, you may substitute 'because' with more formal expressions (**as**, **since** or **seeing as**). (58-A/B)

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|
| 1. More and more people are arriving late for work | _____ | their life is more sedentary than before. |
| 2. Jennifer went to the department store after work | _____ | we must cut back on our water usage. |
| 3. Dan and Tracy went to the amusement park today | _____ | local factories emit harmful pollution. |
| 4. Adolescents are now becoming increasingly obese | because of | the traffic congestion downtown. |
| 5. _____ a drought and water shortage this year | _____ | she needed to buy a new phone. |
| 6. _____ the material is deemed highly explosive | _____ | they wanted to see the new baby panda. |
| 7. It is often difficult to breathe in this industrial area | _____ | it must be kept in a secure location. |

58.2 – Combine the following sentences using a modal verb and the word(s) in brackets. (58-A)

- She intentionally placed the letter on top of the pile. He opened it first. (so that)
_____.
- He happened to be wearing dark sunglasses. Nobody was able to recognize him. (so)
_____.
- They were both speaking in French. Neither of us were able to understand them. (so that)
_____.
- Mom left the medicine on the counter. We saw it as soon as we walked in the house. (in order that)
_____.

58.3 – For each sentence, choose the correct answer in brackets and write it in the gaps below. (58-A/B)

- They didn't bother going to the music festival _____ the uncertain weather. (because of / since)
- Terry stayed at home today _____ his nasty cough. (seeing as / due to)
- _____ his late night at the office, Murray came to work an hour later today. (since / owing to)
- Much of the race driver's success was _____ the superb work of his team in the pits. (due to / owing to)
- The smallest player was given the opportunity to be the hero _____ his team. (given / for)
- _____ the failure of the previous plan, this time the result turned out to be a relative success. (as / given)
- All flights have been cancelled for the rest of the day _____ fog. (because of / given)

58.4 – Complete the sentences with the **infinitive phrases** from the box below. (58-B)

to see / in order to be / in order not to be / to not gain / so as not to miss / so as to prevent

- Students are required to turn off their phones during the exam _____ cheating.
- We ran to the station _____ the last train.
- Ms. Smith worked on her lesson on Saturday _____ ready for her lecture on Monday.
- The thief wore a mask _____ recognized by police.
- Kathy called her best friend _____ how the job interview went.
- She's on a strict diet _____ any weight before her next vacation.

58.5 – Combine the following sentences using the words in brackets. Be mindful of sentence order. (58-C)

- He is only 17 years old. He is unable to vote in the next election. (therefore)
_____.
- He had a serious accident last week. Jim had been driving too fast since he got his license. (as a result)
_____.
- The price of meat has been going up this summer. I have switched to lower-cost foods in the meantime. (so)
_____.
- It was impossible to convict him. Most of the evidence was destroyed in the fire. (thus)
_____.