

104 Because, in case, so, so that

1 We use **because** to give the reason for something:

REASON
Jack is in bed because he's got the flu.
We couldn't go out because the weather was terrible.
I took a taxi because I was in a hurry.

We use **because of** with a noun (e.g. flu, weather, noise):

REASON
Jack's in bed because of his flu.
We couldn't go out because of the storm.
I couldn't sleep because of the noise.

2 We use **in case** when the reason is something that might happen:

REASON
I'm taking an umbrella in case it rains.
 (= I'm taking an umbrella because it might rain.)
I'll phone John now, in case he wants to come with us.
 (= ... because he might want to come with us.)

3 We use **so** to talk about the result of something:

RESULT
I was in a hurry so I took a taxi.
Jack has got the flu so he's in bed.
The weather was terrible so we couldn't go out.
My neighbours were having a party and making a lot of noise so I couldn't sleep.

4 We use **so that** to talk about the purpose of an action:

PURPOSE
I took a taxi so that I would arrive on time.
I listen to the news in the morning so that I know what's happening in the world.
Tom goes jogging every day so that he'll stay fit.
I took a taxi so that my friends would not have to wait for me.

(We can also use **to + infinitive** to talk about purpose; see Unit 95.)

Practice

A Write each sentence in a different way using the words given.

- ▶ Tom didn't want to go out because he had a cold.
Tom didn't want to go out because of his cold.
- ▶ Take some money because you might need to take a taxi.
Take some money in case you need to take a taxi.
- ▶ John and I asked for a drink because we were thirsty.
John and I were thirsty so we asked for a drink.
- 1 Mary went to bed because she was tired.
 so
- 2 I couldn't sleep because it was so hot.
 the heat.
- 3 Jill doesn't like apples so she doesn't eat them.
 because
- 4 The streets were crowded because of the football match.
 there was a football match.
- 5 I'll give Jane a key to the house because she might get home before me.
 in case

B Complete the sentences with **because**, **in case** or **so**, and a phrase from the box. Use each phrase once.

I'll take a book to read	his passport was out of date
I want to lose weight	his wife was ill
she's at home	there is a power cut this weekend
they had to wait for the next one	

- ▶ They missed one bus *so they had to wait for the next one.*
- 1 I don't know where my sister is, but I'll try phoning her
- 2 I'm eating less these days
- 3 Peter had trouble at the airport
- 4 It's a long journey
- 5 We've bought some candles
- 6 Mr Smith didn't go to the meeting

C Write out complete sentences from the words in brackets (), making any necessary changes and including **so that**.

- ▶ (Mark/go/swimming every day/he can stay healthy.)
Mark goes swimming every day so that he can stay healthy.
- 1 (Last week, my brother/lend/me £20/I could buy some new shoes.)

- 2 (Last month, the Government/pass/new traffic laws/fewer people will have accidents.)

- 3 (Our school has/open/a new library/we can have more books.)

- 4 (Ann always/write/everything in her diary/she doesn't forget her appointments.)

- 5 (Last Friday, we/leave/home early/we could avoid the morning traffic.)

D If the sentence is correct, put a tick (✓). If it is incorrect cross out any incorrect words and, if necessary, write in the correct word.

- ▶ A: Why are they tired? ✓
- B: Because that their long journey. ~~of~~
- 1 I can't come tomorrow, so that I came today.
- 2 Take a sandwich with you in case you get hungry.
- 3 Julie had to go to the shops so she needed something for lunch.
- 4 A: Why are you here?
- B: I'm here for have a medical examination.
- A: Well, since you're here, so we can check your teeth as well.