

Cause/Effect Statements

Ref Hsk4 Grammar

— “due to, owing to”

sets up a **cause** at the front of a sentence — “due to, owing to, because of.” It’s more formal than , and it often pairs with / in the result clause.

Structure: + Cause , (/)

{zh: |yóu yú|due to / |tiān qì|weather / |yuán yīn|reasons / ,
|háng bān|the flight / |qǔ xiāo|was cancelled / |le / 。 }

Due to the weather, the flight was cancelled.

{zh: |yóu yú|due to / |yì jiàn|opinions / |bù yí zhì|differing / ,
|liǎng|the two / |wèi / |lǎo bǎn|bosses / |chǎo|started arguing / |le /
|qǐ lái / 。 }

Due to differing opinions, the two bosses started arguing.

Remember: = the formal — it heads the *cause* and likes to hand off to / for the result (..., ...). One pairing trap: can pair with , but leans toward .

Watch out

- It’s written-leaning — in casual speech is far more common.

... — “since, now that”

... reasons forward from an **accepted fact** — “since / now that A is so, then B.” It stands on something already true and draws a suggestion or inference (often with /). It is **not** a hypothetical.

Structure: + (given fact) , () + Suggestion / Inference

{zh: |jì rán|since / |nǐ|you / |nà me|so / |xǐ huan|like it / ,
|nà jiù|then just / |mǎi|buy it / |ba / 。 }

Since you like it so much, just buy it.

{zh: |jì rán|since / |dà jiā|everyone / |dōu / |bù|isn’t / |gǎn
xìng qù|interested / , |jiù|then / |huàn|change / |ge / |huà tí|the topic
/ |ba / 。 }

Since no one’s interested, let’s change the subject.

Remember: = “since (we both know) X is true...” — it builds on a *given fact*, then suggests (...). Contrast / , which build on an *if*. Fact → ; supposition → .

Watch out

- The result is a suggestion or inference, usually led by / / .

— “therefore, as a result”

(“because of this”) rolls out a **consequence** — “therefore, as a result, for this reason.” It’s formal and common in writing, pairing naturally with a / cause.

Structure: Cause , + Effect

{zh: |zuó tiān|yesterday / |xià yǔ|it rained / |le / |yīn cǐ|therefore
/ |wǒ|I / |méi yǒu|didn’t / |chū mén|go out / 。 }

It rained yesterday, so I didn’t go out.

{zh: |tā|she / |zài|in / |nóng cūn|the countryside / |zhǎng dà|grew
up / , |yīn cǐ|therefore / |hěn|well / |liǎo jiě|understands / |nóng
mín|farmers’ / |de / |shēng huó|life / 。 }

She grew up in the countryside, so she understands rural life well.

Remember: = “because of THIS, therefore...” (“because” + “this”) — it introduces the *effect*. Formal cousin of ; pairs with a / cause.

Watch out

- It leads the *result* clause — the cause comes first, then + effect.