

# Cause/Effect Statements

Ref Hsk4 Grammar

## 由于 — “due to, owing to”

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

**Structure:** 由于 + Cause , (因此 / 所以) .....

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

*Due to the weather, the flight was cancelled.*

{zh: 由于 |yóu yú|due to / 意见 |yì jiàn|opinions / 不一致 |bù yí zhì|differing / , 两 |liǎng|the two / 位 |wèi / 老板 |lǎo bǎn|bosses / 吵 |chǎo|started arguing / 了 |le / 起来 |qǐ lái / 。 }

*Due to differing opinions, the two bosses started arguing.*

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

**Watch out**

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

## 既然 ... 就 ... — “since, now that”

**既然 ... 就 ...** 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 **那 / 那就**). It is **not** a hypothetical.

**Structure:** 既然 + (given fact) , (那) 就 + Suggestion / Inference

{zh: 既然 |jì rán|since / 你 |nǐ|you / 那么 |nà me|so / 喜欢 |xǐ huan|like it / , 那就 |nà jiù|then just / 买 |mǎi|buy it / 吧 |ba / 。 }

*Since you like it so much, just buy it.*

{zh: 既然 |jì rán|since / 大家 |dà jiā|everyone / 都 |dōu / 不 |bù|isn’t / 感兴趣 |gǎn xìng qù|interested / , 就 |jiù|then / 换 |huàn|change / 个 |ge / 话题 |huà tí|the topic / 吧 |ba / 。 }

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

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

### Watch out

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

## 因此 — “therefore, as a result”

**因此** (“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 由于 / 因为 cause.

**Structure:** Cause , 因此 + Effect

{zh: 昨天 |zuó tiān|yesterday / 下雨 |xià yǔ|it rained / 了 |le / , 因此 |yīn cǐ|therefore / 我 |wǒ|I / 没有 |méi yǒu|didn’t / 出门 |chū mén|go out / 。 }

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

{zh: 她 |tā|she / 在 |zài|in / 农村 |nóng cūn|the countryside / 长大 |zhǎng dà|grew up / , 因此 |yīn cǐ|therefore / 很 |hěn|well / 了解 |liǎo jiě|understands / 农民 |nóng mín|farmers’ / 的 |de / 生活 |shēng huó|life / 。 }

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

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

### Watch out

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