

Cause/Effect Statements

HSK 6 Grammar

Use the examples with their context and limits. Recall a sentence before reading the model. Original teaching additions accompany examples adapted from Chinese Grammar Wiki (AllSet Learning, CC BY-NC-SA); see the course reference provenance.

... ... (because ..., thereby ...)

■ A cause explains one outcome

- A nervous speaker accidentally says the wrong word.
- – names the reason; names the resulting action.

A cause explains one outcome

SITUATION

A nervous speaker accidentally says the wrong word.

SPEAKER MEANING

names the reason;
names the resulting action.

CHECK THE LIMIT

Keep the cause between
and .

■ Locate the pattern in real examples

- (because ..., thereby ...): ;
- Read the whole clause before choosing a translation. The examples show the pattern in use; the context below determines what the speaker claims.

■ Follow the speaker

bǐ sài yīn wèi xià yǔ ér qǔ xiāo le

Word guide: – the match; – because; – rain; – thereby; – cancel.

- In the opening situation:
- names the reason; names the resulting action.

■ Check the limit of the explanation

- Keep the cause between and .
- This explains the claimed cause, rather than proving it. The subject can precede the whole structure, avoiding a needless second subject.

■ Repair the form before interpreting it

- The form needs repair here. Write instead; keep the word or frame in its demonstrated order.
- Form and meaning are separate checks. After the repair, explain the sentence in its situation rather than treating a familiar translation as a universal rule.

■ Keep the distinction

- names the reason; names the resulting action. Check the relevant speaker, time or group in the surrounding context.
- Keep the cause between and . This explains the claimed cause, rather than proving it. The subject can precede the whole structure, avoiding a needless second subject.

■ Try it with help closed

A nervous speaker accidentally says the wrong word. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson's pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

One possible response:

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- Keep the cause between and .
- This explains the claimed cause, rather than proving it. The subject can precede the whole structure, avoiding a needless second subject.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

Practise this pattern step by step.