

Unit 32 Expressing reason, text organisers

Explanations

Reason

1 *As, since* and *for*

As and *since* have the meaning of *because* and can begin a sentence. *For* also has the meaning of *because* but cannot begin a sentence and is followed by a clause. It is only used in written language.

As/since it was late, we decided to go home.

Peter has given up sailing, for he doesn't have the time.

2 *On account of, owing to* and *due to*

On account of has the meaning of *because of*.

Everyone was depressed on account of the bad weather.

Due to and *owing to* also have the meaning of *because of*, and can be used in the same way as *on account of*. However, some grammars make this difference between them:

Sue's success was due to her hard work, (noun + *due to*)

Sue succeeded owing to her hard work, (verb + *owing to*)

Text organisers

This term covers words and phrases which make clear the organisation of what we say or write. Most of the expressions listed are more commonly used in writing, or formal speech. The activities give examples of how these words and phrases can be used.

1 Sequencing

In writing, we often order the points we are making by showing their order or sequence. Points can be introduced by:

first (of all)... secondly... next... then... finally/lastly/last of all...

In narrative, the sequence of events can be introduced by:

first..., then... after that..., finally/in the end...

2 Adding

In writing, we can introduce additional points with these words and phrases. These are all formal in use.

furthermore..., moreover... in addition to this ...as well as this..., besides this...

3 Giving opinions

Personal opinions can be introduced in writing by:

Personally..., in my own opinion/view...

4 (Living) examples

Examples are introduced by:

For example..., for instance...

Such as is another way of giving examples. It is not used at the beginning of a sentence.

The factory produces electrical goods, such as food mixers and other kitchen appliances.

5 Showing result

Some formal ways of showing result are:

Consequently..., as a result..., thus...

6 Making contrasts

In writing, a contrasting point can be introduced by:

On the other hand..., however..., nevertheless...

Other contrasts can be made with:

In contrast..., in comparison...

7 Summing up

We can introduce a summing up of our points with:

In conclusion..., to sum up...

Activities

- Many people feel nervous about flying, and worry about the possibility of an accident. Furthermore/In addition according to statistics, flying is actually safer than walking down the street.
- Our local supermarket no longer opens every day, as/on account of very few people live in our village.
- There are a number of objections to the planned motorway. As well as this/First of all, the new road will destroy valuable farming land. In contrast/In addition to this, it will bring thousands of vehicles to our quiet area, and flood the countryside with tourists. As a result/For example, our peaceful way of life will be destroyed for ever.
- We conducted a survey of accommodation in the town, and came up with some interesting results. The hotels we saw were rather expensive, and consequently/moreover the actual facilities on offer were not always impressive. Besides this/In contrast, there were many guest houses, offering just bed and breakfast, which were not only good value but also had much better rooms than the hotels did. Finally/Prmally, I would recommend 'The Oaks', a particularly impressive guest house in Long I (Arbour Road).
- Owing to/Since the increased demand for parking spaces, the company has decided to enlarge the car park behind the main building. Consequently/Nevertheless the exit road on the west side of the car park will be closed from Monday 5th November to allow building work to begin.