

# 104 Because, in case, so, so that

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

Jack is in bed **REASON** *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**):

Jack's in bed **REASON** *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:

I'm taking an umbrella **REASON** *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:

I was in a hurry **RESULT** *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:

I took a taxi **PURPOSE** *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I'll take a book to read	his passport was out of date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. ....

