

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I'll take a book to read	his passport was out of date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.

