

UNIT 8

Connecting ideas with because and since

A clause with because or since presents a reason. There's no difference in meaning between because and since in the following sentences.

I'm going to Paris because I love French food.

He's not wearing a jacket since it's really warm today.

In speaking, it's OK to answer a question using only a clause with because or since.

A: Why are you wearing jeans?

B: Because it's a really casual restaurant.

In writing, however, a clause beginning with because or since is not a sentence; it's an incomplete thought. To make the thought complete, connect the clause beginning with because or since to a sentence.

I wear jeans at that restaurant because it is a really casual restaurant.

A clause with because or since can come at the beginning or the end of the sentence. When it comes at the beginning, use a comma. It's good writing style to vary placement so all sentences don't sound the same.

I eat vegetables every day because they are healthy.

Because they are healthy, I eat vegetables every day.

Remember:

In English, a sentence is a group of words containing a subject and a verb. It expresses a complete thought.

A On a separate sheet of paper, connect and rewrite the sentences, using clauses with either because or since. **Be careful!** Make sure the clause with because or since presents a reason.

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| 1 I'm wearing a sweater. I feel cold. | 4 They didn't have a ticket for the concert. They stayed home. |
| 2 She called her brother. It was his birthday. | 5 Our printer is broken. We have to get a new one. |
| 3 He bought a blue blazer. He needed it for a business trip. | |

B On a separate sheet of paper, answer each question with a complete sentence containing a clause with because or since.

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| 1 Why do you like dance music?
<i>I like dance music because it is happy music.</i> | 4 Why do people like malls? |
| 2 Why are you studying English? | 5 Why are running shoes more comfortable than formal shoes? |
| 3 Why is a clothing store better than a clothing website? | |

C **Guidance for the Writing Exercise (on page 96)** Write a list of at least five clothing do's and don'ts for appropriate dress in your country. Explain the reasons for the tips, using because and since. Use your sentences as a guide to help you write your letter or e-mail.

Don't wear jeans to formal restaurants because people here are generally pretty conservative.