

The Nasty Taxi-driver



ANSWER KEY

by
Terry Bell

The Nasty Taxi Driver

Grammar Joining sentences

1. Because / As / Since

Exercise 1

1. You can't have any pudding **because/as/since** you haven't eaten your vegetables.
2. The driver was arrested by the police **because/as/since** he went through a red light.
3. The captain refused to sail **because/as/since** the sea was very rough.
4. This building is very dangerous **because/as/since** all the fire exits are locked.
5. We'll have to cancel the barbecue **because/as/since** it's started raining.

2. So / Therefore / As a result

Exercise 2

1. You haven't eaten your vegetables **so** you can't have any pudding.
You haven't eaten your vegetables. **As a result/Therefore**, you can't have any pudding.
2. The driver went through a red light **so** he was arrested by the police.
The driver went through a red light. **As a result/Therefore**, he was arrested by the police.
3. The sea was very rough **so** the captain refused to sail.
The sea was very rough. **As a result/Therefore**, the captain refused to sail.
4. All the fire exits are locked **so** this building is very dangerous.
All the fire exits are locked. **As a result/Therefore**, this building is very dangerous.
5. It's started raining **so** we'll have to cancel the barbecue.
It's started raining. **As a result/Therefore**, we'll have to cancel the barbecue.

Exercise 3

1. He didn't work very hard **so** he got a bad mark in the exam.
He didn't work very hard. **As a result/Therefore**, he got a bad mark in the exam.
2. He couldn't swim **so** his mother wouldn't let him go to the river.
He couldn't swim. **As a result/Therefore**, his mother wouldn't let him go to the river.
3. It didn't rain for more than two weeks **so** the flowers died.
It didn't rain for more than two weeks. **As a result/Therefore**, the flowers died.
4. My eyes need a rest **so** I'll finish this work tomorrow.
My eyes need a rest. **As a result/Therefore**, I'll finish this work tomorrow.
5. A snake bit the man **so** he had to go to hospital.
A snake bit the man. **As a result/Therefore**, he had to go to hospital.

3. But / However / Although

Exercise 4

1. Travelling by bus is very cheap **but** most people prefer to go by car.
Travelling by bus is very cheap. **However**, most people prefer to go by car.
Although travelling by bus is very cheap, most people prefer to go by car.
2. Azman's spoken English is excellent **but** his writing needs to be improved.
Azman's spoken English is excellent. **However**, his writing needs to be improved.
Although Azman's spoken English is excellent, his writing needs to be improved.
3. The sun was shining **but** it was very cold.
The sun was shining. **However**, it was very cold.
Although the sun was shining, it was very cold.
4. Nuclear energy is cheaper to produce **but** there are serious risks in producing it.
Nuclear energy is cheaper to produce. **However**, there are serious risks in producing it.
Although nuclear energy is cheaper to produce, there are serious risks in producing it.
5. People know it's dangerous to swim in this river **but** a lot of people swim here every weekend.
People know it's dangerous to swim in this river. **However**, a lot of people swim here every weekend.
Although people know it's dangerous to swim in this river, a lot of people swim here every weekend.

Exercise 5

1. Although it has been raining hard, **the ground is still hard.**
2. Junk food is not good for you; **however, young people love the taste.**
3. Cockroaches are a real pest **but many people keep them as pets.**
4. My children are overweight **so they'll have to go on a diet.**
5. A friend of mine refuses to find a job **although he has a wife and six children to feed.**
6. Nobody took him seriously **because he was always fooling around.**
7. Because the monsoon is heavier than normal this year **there is a lot of flooding.**
8. The pitch was flooded **so the game was cancelled.**

Vocabulary

Exercise 1 Find the words in the story

1. **Nasty**
2. **Splash**
3. **Soaking** and **sticky** (and **sweating**)
4. **Puncture**
5. **That serves him right!**

Exercise 2 Crossword

Across

2. sweat
3. splash
6. tyre
7. nasty
8. clothes
10. kilometre
11. dirty

Down

1. laugh
3. suddenly
4. wet
5. puncture
9. mend

Comprehension

1. Koy and Ong were walking home from school.
2. The taxi-driver drove through some water on the road and splashed the children.
3. We know he was nasty because he laughed.
4. Their clothes were full of dirty water.
5. They had to walk one kilometre to their house.
6. Ong was the first to see the taxi-driver in front.
7. He was mending a puncture in his tyre.
8. They were happy and they laughed and laughed.

Writing

Exercise 1 Gap-fill

Suddenly Ong **1. saw** something in front.

'**2. Look** at that!' he said to Koy, and he pointed in front.

Koy **3. couldn't** believe her eyes.

What do you think they could **4. see**?

Yes, the nasty taxi-driver **5. was mending** a puncture in his tyre.

He **6. was** hot and sticky, and very angry but Ong and Koy **7. were** happy.

'That **8. serves** him right!' they **9. thought** and they **10. laughed** all the way home.

Exercise 2 Sequencing

The sentences are not in the correct order. Write numbers after each sentence to show the correct sequence. The first one is done for you:

- The two children had to walk one kilometre to get home. __ **2** __
- School finished for the day. __ **1** __
- A nasty taxi driver splashed water on the children. __ **3** __
- The taxi driver got really angry. __ **6** __
- The children were really angry. __ **4** __
- Ong and Koy had a good laugh about that. __ **7** __
- The taxi had a puncture. __ **5** __

(N.B. The position of 2 and 3 can be interchanged)

Discussion

- *Make hay while the sun shines.*
Do something when the time is ready, while the opportunity still exists.
- *Too many cooks spoil the broth.*
If too many people are working on the same job, or doing the same thing, it might turn out bad.
- *Don't count your chickens before they hatch.*
You have to wait until something really happens. Don't just think it will happen because maybe it won't happen after all.
- *Don't put all your eggs in one basket.*
It's better not to put all your resources and hopes on one event. Spread them out so that even if things turn out differently from what you expect, you might not lose everything.
- *Don't cry over spilt milk.*
If something bad happens, don't worry too much about it. Move on with your life!