

# Unit 76

## Adverbs of place, direction, indefinite frequency, and time

**A** Adverbs of place and direction (or adverbials, particularly prepositional phrases) usually go in end position, but we can put them in front position to emphasise the location. The effect may also be to highlight what comes at the end (e.g. 'a body' in the example below). This order is found mainly in formal descriptive writing and reports. Compare:

- ☐ The money was eventually found **under the floorboards**. (= end) *and*
- ☐ The police searched the house. **Under the floorboards** they found a body. (= front)

If we put an adverb of place in front position we put the subject *after* the verb **be** (see also Unit 99A):

- ☐ **Next to the bookshelf** *was* a fireplace. (or *less formally* **Next to the bookshelf** there *was* a fireplace; *not* **Next to the bookshelf** a fireplace *was*.)

Note that this doesn't apply when the subject is a pronoun. For example, we can't say 'Next to the bookshelf *was* it.'

We can also put the subject after the verb with intransitive verbs (except with a pronoun subject) used to indicate being in a position or movement to a position, including **hang, lie, live, sit, stand; come, fly, go, march, roll, run, swim, walk**:

- ☐ Beyond the houses **lay open fields**. (but *compare* Beyond the houses *they* lay.)
- ☐ Through the town **marched the band**. (but *compare* Through the town *it* marched.)

Note that '...open fields lay', '...the band marched' (etc.) might be used in a literary style.

However, we don't usually put the subject after the verb when we talk about actions: if one of these intransitive verbs is followed by an adverb of manner; with other intransitive verbs; or with transitive verbs:

- ☐ Through the waves the boy **swam powerfully**. (rather than ...swam the boy powerfully.)
- ☐ Outside the church the choir **sang**. (rather than ...sang the choir.)
- ☐ In the garden John **built a play house** for the children. (not In the garden built John...)

**B** When we put certain adverbs of time in front position the subject must come *after* an auxiliary verb or a main verb **be** (see also Unit 100):

- ☐ **At no time** would *he* admit that his team played badly. (not At no time he would admit...)
- ☐ **Not once** was *she* at home when I phoned. (not Not once she was...)

If the main verb is not **be** and there is no auxiliary, we use **do**, although inversion is not necessary in this case:

- ☐ **Only later** did *she* realise how much damage had been caused. (or Only later she realised...)

Adverbs like this include negative time adverbials such as **at no time, hardly ever, not once, only later, rarely, and seldom**. Notice also that we can put **first, next, now and then** in front position with the verb **come** to introduce a new event, when the subject follows the verb. But if a comma (or an intonation break in speech) is used after **first** (etc.) the verb follows the subject. Compare:

- ☐ At first there was silence. **Then came** a voice that I knew. (not Then a voice came...) *and*
- ☐ At first there was silence. **Then,** a voice *came* that I knew.

**C** Adverbs of time which indicate a definite point or period in time or a definite frequency, usually go in end position, or front position for emphasis, but not in mid position. Note that when these adverbs are in front position there is no inversion of subject and verb:

- ☐ I went to Paris **yesterday**. (or **Yesterday** I went to Paris.)
- ☐ We meet for lunch **once a week**. (or **Once a week** we meet for lunch.)

Note that the adverbs **daily, hourly, monthly, weekly, annually, quarterly** (= four times a year), etc. only go in end position:

- ☐ The train leaves **hourly**. (not Hourly the train leaves; not The train hourly leaves.)
- ☐ I pay my subscription **annually**. (not Annually I pay...; not I annually pay...)

76.1 Rewrite the sentences with the underlined adverbs of place or direction at the front of the clause. If possible, invert the order of subject and verb. (A)

- 1 A dark wood was at the bottom of the garden.  
At the bottom of the garden was a dark wood.
- 2 The car stopped suddenly and Nick jumped out.
- 3 Two small children stood outside the door.
- 4 The boys were playing cricket in the park, despite the muddy conditions.
- 5 The choir was singing one of my favourite carols inside the church.
- 6 A jade necklace hung around her neck.
- 7 The horse ran down the hill quickly.
- 8 The man released the monkey and it climbed up the tree.
- 9 The door burst open and a delegation from the striking workers marched in.
- 10 I tripped over the cat, dropped the tray, and it flew across the room.
- 11 While Nigel was looking around for his net the fish swam away.
- 12 Most of the furniture was modern, but a very old grandfather clock was in the corner.
- 13 She drove around the town for hours looking for the gallery, until she spotted the place in a side street.
- 14 Megan watched sadly through the window.
- 15 Ann found it difficult to concentrate in the office, but she worked more efficiently at home.
- 16 They saw a volcano erupting in Japan, and they experienced an earthquake in Indonesia.
- 17 A 16<sup>th</sup> century church is on one side of the village green and a 15<sup>th</sup> century pub stands opposite.

76.2 If possible, rewrite the underlined parts of these sentences with the time adverbial in front position. Where you can, invert the order of subject and verb, and make any other necessary changes. (B & C)

- 1 I trusted Dan completely, and I realised only later that he had tricked me.  
I trusted Dan completely, and only later did I realise that he had tricked me.
- 2 After working so hard all summer, I had a holiday last week.
- 3 Professor Coulson was to give the initial paper at the conference, but a welcoming address came first by the head of the organising team.
- 4 The area was cleared before the explosion, and members of the public were in danger at no time.
- 5 I've got high blood pressure and I have to take tablets daily for it.
- 6 When it became clear that he was in danger of losing the election, a politician can seldom have changed his views so quickly as Beckett.
- 7 After a few days of relative calm, a blizzard came next, preventing us from leaving the hut.
- 8 It's hard to imagine that we'll be in Japan by next Friday.
- 9 You won't have long to wait as trains for Rome leave hourly.
- 10 My grandfather was a gentle man, and I hardly ever heard him raise his voice in anger.
- 11 I walk to work for the exercise, and I play squash twice a week.
- 12 If you take the job, your salary will be paid quarterly into your bank account.

## Degree adverbs and focus adverbs

**A** *Degree adverbs* can be used before adjectives, verbs, or other adverbs to give information about the extent or level of something:

- ☐ They're **extremely** happy.    ☐ I **really** hate coffee.    ☐ He **almost** *always* arrived late.

Some degree adverbs, such as **almost**, **largely**, **really** and **virtually**, are usually used before the main verb, and others, such as **altogether**, **enormously**, **somewhat**, and **tremendously**, are usually used after the main verb. Degree adverbs are rarely used in front position (see Unit 75B).

*Focus adverbs* draw attention to the most important part of what we are talking about. Some (e.g. **especially**, **even**, **mainly**, **mostly**, **particularly**, **specifically**) make what we say more specific:

- ☐ There is likely to be snow today, **particularly** in the north.

and others (e.g. **alone**, **just**, **only**, **simply**, **solely**) limit what we say to one thing or person:

- ☐ Many people offered to help me invest the money, but I **only** trusted Peter.

**B** **Much and very much**

In affirmative sentences in formal contexts, **much** can be used as a degree adverb before the verbs **admire**, **appreciate**, **enjoy**, **prefer** and **regret** to emphasise how we feel about things:

- ☐ I **much** enjoyed having you stay with us.    ☐ Their music *is* **much** admired.

**Much** is used in this way particularly after **I** and **we** and (with **admire** and **appreciate**) in passives. Note that we don't usually use this pattern in questions (e.g. *not* 'Did you much enjoy...?').

We can use **very much** in a similar way before these verbs and also before **agree**, **doubt**, **fear**, **hope**, **like** and **want**. Notice, however, that we don't use **much** before this last group of verbs. Compare:

- ☐ I **much** prefer seeing films at the cinema than on television. (*or* I **very much** prefer...) *and*  
☐ We **very much** agree with the decision. (*or* We agree very much...; *but not* ...much agree...)

We can also use **much** or **very much** before a past participle which is part of a passive:

- ☐ The new by-pass *was* (very) **much** needed.

We don't use **much** but can use **very much** before past participle adjectives (see Unit 69A):

- ☐ She *was* (very) **interested** in the news. (*or* ... **very much** interested...; *but not* much interested...)

and we don't use either **much** or **very much** before present participle adjectives:

- ☐ The hotel *was* (very) **welcoming**. (*but not* The hotel *was* (very) much welcoming.)

In negative sentences in informal contexts we can use (very) **much** before verbs such as **appreciate**, **enjoy**, **like**, and **look forward to** to emphasise a negative feeling about something:

- ☐ I *didn't* (very) **much** enjoy the film.

**C** **Very and too**

Before an adjective or another adverb we use **very** when we mean 'to a high degree', and **too** when we mean 'more than enough' or 'more than is wanted or needed'. Compare:

- ☐ The weather *was* **very** hot in Majorca. Perfect for swimming. (*not*...too hot...) *and*  
☐ It's **too** hot to stay in this room – let's find somewhere cooler. (*not* ...very hot...)

In negative sentences in informal spoken English we can use **not too** to mean 'not very':

- ☐ I'm **not too** bothered about who wins. (*or* I'm **not very** bothered...)

**D** **Even, only and alone**

**Even** and **only** usually go in mid position (see Unit 75), but if they refer to the subject they usually come before it. Compare:

- ☐ My mother *has* **only** brought some food. (= She hasn't brought anything else) *and*  
☐ **Only** my mother *has* brought some food. (= My mother and nobody else)  
☐ Sue *can* **even** speak French. (= in addition to everything else she can do) *and*  
☐ **Even** Sue *can* speak French. (= you might not expect her to) (*rather than* Sue even...)

When **alone** means that only one thing or person is involved, it comes *after* a noun:

- ☐ *You* **alone** should decide what is right for you.

## 77.1 Which of these can go in the spaces: very, much, very much? (B)

- 1 We ..... hope that the striking workers will now resume negotiations.
- 2 Thanks for organising the refreshments on school sports day. Your help was ..... appreciated.
- 3 I felt ..... intimidated by some of the questions in the interview.
- 4 I had always ..... admired her work, and it was a great experience to meet her personally.
- 5 There was a time when I ..... wanted a lot of children, but I'm perfectly happy now with the one child we have.
- 6 I would ..... prefer to be remembered as someone who was kind rather than just as someone who was wealthy.
- 7 It was ..... thrilling to get Eva's news.
- 8 When I was travelling in India I became ..... interested in regional foods.
- 9 Jack says that he wants to go into politics, but I ..... doubt that he's serious.
- 10 I ..... regret not being able to hear Dr Jackson speak when she came to the university.

## 77.2 Write very, too, or very/too if either is possible. (C)

- 1 The old bridge in town was ..... narrow for the coach to drive across, so we had to go an extra 50 miles to the new one.
- 2 Kay has agreed to start work earlier, but she's not ..... enthusiastic about it.
- 3 The instructions are ..... easy. You'll have no trouble understanding them.
- 4 It was ..... alarming to learn that one of the plane's engines had stopped.
- 5 We'll be at the cinema well before the film starts. It won't take ..... long to get there.
- 6 It was snowing ..... heavily for us to climb further up the mountain.
- 7 He revised ..... hard and did well in his exams.
- 8 Joanna was in a wheelchair as she was still ..... weak from her operation to walk far.

## 77.3 Put even, only or alone in the most appropriate place in each sentence. (D)

- 1 Mark offered to let me stay with him while I was in Glasgow, and ..... he ..... offered to pick me up from the station.
- 2 ..... I will ..... be in my office on Monday next week as I'm going to Poland for a business meeting on Tuesday.
- 3 You are unlikely to buy the car you really need if you choose one on the basis of ..... price .....
- 4 Every penny the charity raises helps the homeless, and ..... the smallest donation ..... can make a vital difference.
- 5 Ron seems to have invited everyone to the party. .... he has ..... asked Claire, and they haven't spoken to each other for years.
- 6 ..... John ..... knew where the keys were kept, and nobody else.
- 7 ..... advertising ..... won't persuade people to buy. You need to have a quality product.
- 8 The theme park is really expensive. .... admission ..... costs £25 and then you have to pay £5 for each of the rides.

## Comment adverbs and viewpoint adverbs

**A** We use some adverbs to make a *comment* on what we are saying.

some comment adverbs...	example
indicate how likely we think something is	apparently, certainly, clearly, definitely, obviously, presumably, probably, undoubtedly
indicate our attitude to or opinion of what is said	astonishingly, frankly, generally, honestly, interestingly, luckily, naturally, sadly, seriously, surprisingly, unbelievably
show our judgement of someone's actions	bravely, carelessly, foolishly, generously, kindly, rightly, stupidly, wisely, wrongly

Comment adverbs often apply to the whole sentence and are most frequently used in front position (see Unit 75A), although they can also be used at the end of the sentence and in other positions. At the beginning and end of sentences we usually separate them from the rest of the sentence by a comma in writing or by intonation in speech:

- ☐ Presumably, he didn't hear me when I called.
- ☐ The book was based on his experience in China, apparently.
- ☐ Jackson believes that child development can be slowed down by poor nutrition. This is undoubtedly the case.

Comment adverbs which show judgement usually follow the subject, although they can be put in front position for emphasis:

- ☐ He kindly offered to take me to the station. (or Kindly, he offered... to emphasise 'Kindly')

If comment adverbs apply to only part of the sentence they can be used in other positions.

Compare:

- ☐ Astonishingly, she did well in the exam. (= I was surprised that she did well)
- ☐ She did astonishingly well in the exam. (= she did very well)
- ☐ You've had a major operation. Obviously, it will be very painful for a while. (= I expect you to know this already)
- ☐ When he stood up it was obviously very painful. (= the pain was clear to see)

**B** Some adverbs are used to make clear what *viewpoint* we are speaking from; that is, identifying what features of something are being talked about:

- ☐ Financially, the accident has been a disaster for the owners of the tunnel.
- ☐ The brothers may be alike physically, but they have very different personalities.

Other examples include biologically, environmentally, financially, ideologically, industrially, logically, medically, morally, outwardly, politically, technically, visually.

A number of phrases are used in a similar way. For example:

politically speaking	in political terms	in terms of politics
from a political point of view	as far as politics are concerned	

- ☐ Politically/In political terms, this summer is a crucial time for the government.
- ☐ Financially/From a financial point of view, it is a good investment.

Some adverbs or phrases are used to say *whose* viewpoint we are expressing:

- ☐ The head of National North Bank is to receive, according to newspaper reports, a 50% salary increase.
- ☐ In my view, the Foreign Minister should resign immediately.

Other examples include to my/his/her (etc.) knowledge, from my/his/her (etc.) perspective, personally, in my/his/her (etc.) opinion.



78.1 Choose a comment adverb to replace the underlined part. Consider possible positions in the sentence for the adverb. (A)

astonishingly bravely carelessly generously  
interestingly obviously presumably rightly

- 1 It was very surprising indeed that no paintings were destroyed by the fire in the gallery.  
Astonishingly, no paintings were destroyed by the fire in the gallery.
- 2 As you drive off the ferry, there are lots of different flags flying by the side of the road.  
It seems likely that the idea is to welcome visitors from other countries.
- 3 Acting more kindly than they needed to, the builders agreed to plant new trees to replace the ones they had dug up.
- 4 Most people believe in a correct way that the prisoners should be released.
- 5 It was easy to see that she knew more about the robbery than she told the police.
- 6 He broke the window when he was painting because he wasn't paying attention to what he was doing.
- 7 She picked up the spider and put it outside, showing no fear.
- 8 I found it strange that this was the only map I could find that includes the village of Atherstone.

78.2 Complete the sentences with an appropriate viewpoint adverb from (i) and an ending from (ii). (B)

- (i)
- |                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| environmentally | financially          |
| industrially    | <del>medically</del> |
| outwardly       | politically          |
| technically     | visually             |

- (ii)
- |  |
|--|
| ...we'd be much better off if we moved there.        |
| ...the performance was stunning.                     |
| ...it is relatively undeveloped.                     |
| ...she looked remarkably calm.                       |
| ...she could be sent to prison.                      |
| <del>...the doctors can't find anything wrong.</del> |
| ...it is no longer the problem it once was.          |
| ...he claims to be a socialist.                      |

- 1 Sam says that he is still getting severe headaches, although...  
medically the doctors can't find anything wrong.
- 2 As she stepped onto the stage she felt terrified, but...
- 3 Now that lead is no longer added to most petrol,...
- 4 The country earns most of its income from agriculture and...
- 5 The band didn't play terribly well, and the singing was awful, but...
- 6 The cost of living is much lower in Northumberland, so...
- 7 Edwards is one of the richest men in the country, although...
- 8 Val is likely to be fined for failing to pay her gas bill, although...

78.3 Suggest an appropriate noun, adjective or adverb and one of the phrases in the box in B to complete these sentences. Use a different phrase each time. You could use the following words (or adjectives or adverbs formed from them) or suggest your own.

architecture democracy geology grammar history

- 1 Historically speaking, in what ways has disease affected the development of Western civilisation?
- 2 ..... limestone is a relatively new rock.
- 3 The building is similar to the opera house in Milan .....
- 4 ..... the essay was well written, but its style was inappropriate.
- 5 The election was clearly rigged and the result is a severe blow to the country .....

## Adverbial clauses of time

## A As, when and while

We can often use **as**, **when** or **while** to mean 'during the time that', to talk about something that happens when something else takes place:

- ☐ **As/When/While** Dave was eating, the doorbell rang.

We use **when** (*not as or while*) to introduce a clause which talks about –

- ☆ an event that takes place at the same time as some longer event (in the main clause):

- ☐ They were playing in the garden **when** they heard a scream.

- ☆ the circumstances in which the event in the main clause happens:

- ☐ **When** they are fully grown these snakes can be over two metres long.

We also use **when** to mean 'every time':

- ☐ I still feel tired **when** I wake up in the morning.

and we prefer **when** to talk about past periods of our lives:

- ☐ His mother called him Robbie **when** he was a baby.

We prefer **when** to emphasise that one event happens immediately after another, particularly if one causes the other:

- ☐ You'll see my house on the right **when** you cross the bridge.

- ☐ **When** the lights went out, I lit some candles.

In the first sentence, 'as' or 'while' would suggest 'during the time that' and the continuous would be more likely ('...as/while you are crossing...'). In the second sentence 'as' or 'while' would be very unlikely because lights usually go out instantaneously.

We prefer **as** to say that when one thing changes, another thing changes at the same time:

- ☐ **As** the cheese matures, its flavour improves. (*rather than* When the cheese...)

We can also use 'While...', particularly with a continuous tense: 'While the cheese is maturing...'

We prefer **while** or **as** (rather than **when**) to talk about two longer actions that go on at the same time, although **while** is more common than **as** in informal speech:

- ☐ I went shopping **while** Linda cleaned the house. (*or ...as Linda cleaned...*)

We use **while** or **when** (rather than **as**) to avoid ambiguity where 'as' could mean 'because':

- ☐ **While** you were playing golf, I went to the cinema. ('As you were playing golf...' could mean 'Because you were playing golf...')

## B Before, after and until

We use **before** or **after** to talk about an event happening earlier or later than another event:

- ☐ I put on my coat **before** I went out. ☐ The message arrived **after** I'd left.

We can often use either **until** or **before** when a situation continues to happen up to a time indicated in the adverbial clause:

- ☐ I had to wait six weeks **until/before** the parcel arrived.

We use **until** to talk about an action that continues to a particular time and then stops:

- ☐ They sat on the beach **until** the sun sank below the horizon, and then they went home.

and when the adverbial clause describes the *result* of an action in the main clause:

- ☐ He cleaned his shoes **until** they shone. ('shining' is the result of 'cleaning'.)

## C Hardly, no sooner, scarcely

When we say that one event happened immediately after another we can use sentences with **hardly**, **no sooner**, and **scarcely** (see also Unit 100). After **hardly** and **scarcely** the second clause begins with **when** or **before**; after **no sooner** it begins with **than** or **when**:

- ☐ The concert *had* **hardly** begun *before* all the lights went out.

- ☐ I *had* **no sooner** lit the barbecue *than/when* it started to rain.

We often use a past perfect in the clause with **hardly**, **no sooner** or **scarcely** and a past simple in the other.

79.1 Choose *as*, *when* or *while*, whichever is correct or more likely, to complete these sentences. If there is more than one possible answer, write them both and notice any differences in meaning.

(A)

- 1 She fell over \_\_\_\_\_ she kicked the ball.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ we were younger our parents had to pay for our music lessons.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ I speak Spanish, I talk slowly to help people understand me.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ I carefully packed all the old books into boxes, Emily wrote down their titles in a notebook.
- 5 She stayed at home watching television \_\_\_\_\_ her brother was at school.
- 6 Where did you live \_\_\_\_\_ you got married?
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ I'm older I'd love to be a dancer.
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ the results started to come in, it became clear that President Como had lost the election.
- 9 The humidity started to increase \_\_\_\_\_ the day wore on.
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_ the boy watched in fascination, the ants picked up the dead beetle and carried it off to their nest.
- 11 The fan makes a screeching sound \_\_\_\_\_ I switch the computer on.
- 12 \_\_\_\_\_ the meeting continued, it became clear that the two sides would not reach an agreement.
- 13 \_\_\_\_\_ the car went by, someone waved to me through the window.
- 14 \_\_\_\_\_ Kingsley had finished, he tidied up the room and left.
- 15 The snow was getting deeper and deeper \_\_\_\_\_ we waited for the delayed train to arrive.
- 16 I was in the shower \_\_\_\_\_ the phone rang.
- 17 \_\_\_\_\_ the paint dries it changes from a light to a deep red.

79.2 Here are some extracts from a talk about the life and work of Professor Johannes Wichmann. Write *before* or *until* in the spaces or *before/until* if both are possible. (B)

- 1 He continued to work at London University \_\_\_\_\_ he retired in 1978.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ he left his native country, he learned English by listening to the radio.
- 3 It wasn't long \_\_\_\_\_ he was appointed Professor of Chemistry.
- 4 He married Martha \_\_\_\_\_ he moved to England in 1935.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ he came to England he worked in his father's grocery shop.
- 6 He kept applying for university research positions \_\_\_\_\_ he was appointed to a post at London University.
- 7 He was almost unknown outside his specialised field \_\_\_\_\_ he was awarded the Nobel Prize.
- 8 He would work in his laboratory for days at a time \_\_\_\_\_ he had gathered the results he needed.

79.3 Complete the sentences in any appropriate way. (C)

- 1 The paint on the sitting room wall had scarcely dried...  
before my daughter put her dirty hands all over it.
- 2 David had no sooner recovered from a broken ankle...
- 3 He had hardly put down the phone...
- 4 We had no sooner eaten...
- 5 Maggie had hardly finished speaking...
- 6 I had scarcely driven to the end of the street...



Giving reasons: as, because, etc.;  
for and with

**A** We can begin a clause with **as**, **because**, **seeing that**, **seeing as**, or **since** to give a *reason* for a particular situation:

- ☐ *As it was getting late*, I decided I should go home.
- ☐ We must be near the beach, *because I can hear the waves*.
- ☐ *Since he was going to be living in Sweden for some time*, he thought he should read something about the country.
- ☐ We could go and visit Sue, *seeing that we have to drive past her house anyway*.

Notice that –

☆ it is also common and acceptable for **because** to begin a sentence, as in:

- ☐ *Because everything looked different*, I had no idea where to go.

☆ to give reasons in spoken English, we most often use **because**. **So** is also commonly used to express a similar meaning (see also Unit 81). Compare:

- ☐ *Because my mother's arrived*, I won't be able to meet you. ('because' introduces the reason) *and*
- ☐ *My mother's arrived*, so I won't be able to meet you. ('so' introduces the result.)

☆ when it means 'because', **since** is rather formal. It is uncommon in conversation, but is frequently used in this way in academic writing:

- ☐ I had to go outside **because** I was feeling awful. ('since' is unlikely in an informal context)
- ☐ The results of this analysis can be easily compared to future observations **since** satellite coverage will remain continuous. (more likely than 'because' in this formal context.)

☆ **seeing that** is used in informal English. Some people also use **seeing as** in informal speech:

- ☐ Ken just had to apologise, *seeing that/as* he knew he'd made a mistake.

**B** In formal or literary written English we can also introduce reasons with **for**, **in that**, or, less commonly, **inasmuch as**. **For** is a formal alternative to 'because'; **in that** and **inasmuch as** introduce clauses which clarify what has been said by adding detail:

- ☐ The film is unusual **in that** it features only four actors. (or *In that...*, the film is...)
- ☐ Clara and I have quite an easy life, **inasmuch as** neither of us has to work too hard but we earn quite a lot of money. (or *Inasmuch as...*, Clara and I...)
- ☐ We must begin planning now, **for** the future may bring unexpected changes. (not *For* the future..., we must... – where 'for' means 'because'.)

**C** The prepositions **because of**, **due to**, and **owing to** can also be used before a noun or noun phrase to give a reason for something:

- ☐ We were delayed **because of** an accident.
- ☐ She was unable to run **owing to/due to** a leg injury. (= because of a leg injury.)
- ☐ We have less money to spend **owing to/due to** budget cuts. (= because of budget cuts.)

Notice that we don't use **because** alone before a noun or noun phrase:

- ☐ We were delayed **because** there was an accident. (not ...because an accident.)

In current English we usually avoid **owing to** directly after a form of **be**:

- ☐ The company's success *is due to* the new director. (not ...is owing to...)

However, **owing to** is used after **be** + a degree adverb such as **entirely**, **largely**, **mainly**, **partly**:

- ☐ The low election turnout *was partly due to/owing to* the bad weather.

We can often use either **it was due to...that** or **it was owing to...that**:

- ☐ *It was owing to* his encouragement *that* she applied for the job. (or *It was due to...that*)

**D** We can use **for** and **with** followed by a noun phrase to give a reason. **For** has a similar meaning to 'as a result of' and is common in most styles of English (compare B above):

- ☐ She was looking all the better **for** her stay in hospital.

**With** has a similar meaning to 'as a result of there being':

- ☐ **With** so many people ill, I've decided to cancel the meeting.

80.1 Complete the sentence frames with an item from (i) and an item from (ii), in an appropriate order, as in 1. (A)

- (i)
- 1 passengers were given a full refund
  - 2 Angela agreed to book tickets for us all
  - 3 I'll buy you lunch
  - 4 I've given up dairy products
  - 5 we were recommended to buy the textbook second hand
  - 6 the guest lecturer was late
  - 7 we get on so well
  - 8 you should never walk under a ladder

- (ii)
- a it's your birthday
  - b it was her idea to go to the theatre
  - c Dr Jones spoke about his research instead
  - d a new copy would be very expensive
  - e I suggested we all go on holiday together
  - f ~~the train was delayed for more than an hour~~
  - g it's supposed to be unlucky
  - h I'm trying to lose weight

- 1 + f Since the train was delayed for more than an hour, passengers were given a full refund.
- 2 ..... as .....
- 3 Seeing as .....
- 4 Because .....
- 5 ..... since .....
- 6 As .....
- 7 ..... seeing that .....
- 8 ..... because .....

80.2 Complete these sentences using due to or owing to with one of these phrases. If both due to and owing to are possible, write them both. (C)

lack of interest   stress at work   heavy cloud   its central location   human error

- 1 She claims her illness is entirely due to/owing to stress at work.
- 2 The cancellation of the competition is .....
- 3 The popularity of the restaurant is largely .....
- 4 It's likely that the mistake was .....
- 5 We couldn't see last night's eclipse of the moon .....

Now complete these sentences using because or because of + one of these phrases. (C)

his age   his phone was engaged   local opposition  
the bright sunlight   there was a fly in it

- 6 I had to drive in dark glasses .....
- 7 I couldn't speak to Tom .....
- 8 The council had to withdraw its plan to close the swimming pool .....
- 9 My grandfather couldn't do a sponsored parachute jump .....
- 10 He sent the soup back .....

80.3 Rewrite these sentences using for or with instead of because (of). Give alternatives where possible. (D)

- 1 I got a job as a street sweeper because my money was running out.  
With my money running out, I got a job as a street sweeper. or  
I got a job as a street sweeper, with my money running out.
- 2 I couldn't hear what Sue was saying because of the noise.
- 3 Jane went to stay with her aunt because her father was in hospital.
- 4 I felt a lot fitter because of all the exercise I was doing.
- 5 Because the train drivers are on strike tomorrow, I don't think I'll go to London after all.