

COMMUNICATION

Putting things into a wider context

LEVEL

Upper-Intermediate
(B2)

NUMBER

EN_B2_3061X

LANGUAGE

English



Learning outcomes

- I can recognise and recall a wide variety of expressions to express cause, purpose and consequence.
- I can express a lack of intention or reason in relation to a past experience.



Warm-up

Briefly explain what you do. Use the words and phrases in bold below to help explain **how** and **why** you came to be in your current position.

As a result of
my experience
in this field...

Because of
my degree in...

Since
I have worked
at this company
for many
years...

Thanks to
my long career
in...





Expressing cause

Read the vocabulary items and corresponding example sentences.

1 **because (of)**

a We're investing more into research **because of** a recent economic report on the industry.

2 **as a result (of)**

b **As a result of** your behaviour, I have no choice but to suspend you from the team.

3 **as**

c We're going to follow this procedure **as** this is the one mentioned in the manual.

4 **since**

d **Since** these guidelines are outdated, we're going to produce some new ones.

5 **owing to**

e Sandra could not make it to work today **owing to** her illness.

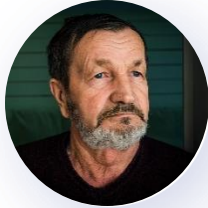
6 **on account of**

f You can all take the rest of the afternoon off **on account of** your hard work.



Expressing purpose

1



The company made some employees redundant **in order to** save money.

2



We are implementing new processes **so that** things will be more efficient.

3



I stayed late at the office **for** a meeting.

4



We ordered some plants **to** make the office look nicer.



Complete the sentences

Complete the sentences by expressing a cause or purpose.

1 The office was closed today...



The office was closed today as it is a bank holiday.

2 Sales have slumped...



3 I have to work overtime next week...



4 Julia is leaving her job...



5 Production has increased...



6 My boss is leaving...





Expressing consequence

Read the vocabulary items and corresponding example sentences.

1 **therefore**

2 **hence**

3 **as a consequence**

4 **so**

5 **thus**

6 **thereby**

a Sales had dropped. **Therefore**, we had to do something drastic.

b We knew we couldn't match our competitors. **Hence**, the project was scrapped.

c **As a consequence** of your work, you will all receive bonuses next month.

d They wouldn't raise his salary **so** he left the company.

e John evaded tax and was **thus** pursued by the authorities.

f We decided to close the office, **thereby** reducing our overheads.



Expressing lack of reason or intent

Read the vocabulary items and corresponding example sentences

1 **accidentally**

a Dr Waters **accidentally** left the report in the lab.

2 **unintentionally**

b The gas was left on, **unintentionally** causing a chain reaction of explosions.

3 **by mistake**

c I sent the email two days early **by mistake!**

4 **inadvertently**

d Your actions **inadvertently** put the rest of your team at risk.

5 **random**

e He won the lottery by complete chance—it was **random**.

6 **unpredictable**

f Some clients are just **unpredictable**.



I **accidentally on purpose**
bumped into the guy I have a
crush on at the supermarket.



What does the highlighted phrase mean? Have you
ever done something **accidentally on purpose**?





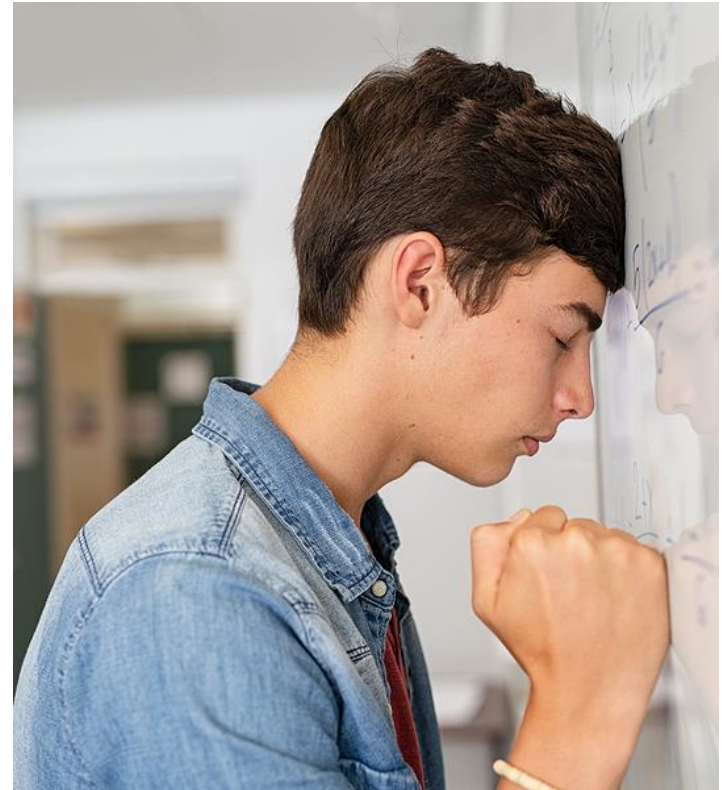
Talk about your own experience

Describe a time when you experienced **one** of the following, using vocabulary to express lack of intention. Complete **in breakout rooms** or together as a class. Did you learn anything surprising about your classmates?

1 an accident

2 a mistake

3 a random but positive event



Write about a successful small business!

Read the text below to **prepare** for the activity on the next slides.

№123456789

Florian's Floral Fortune

As there were no florists in our town, I decided to start my own business, **so that** family and friends could easily buy beautiful bouquets locally for special occasions. Before, people used to go to another town, or pay expensive delivery fees. **Therefore**, I knew that there was an opening for a business idea like mine. The success of my business **rested on** my reputation as an avid gardener. People had always come to me for advice – **so** I just turned my passion into my profession!



Write about your successful small business!

Your small business has recently had a lot of success. The local paper wants you to write an article about your success story.

Write an article, following the steps on the next three slides.

1



Give your reasons and intentions for setting up the business.

*As a result of... since... owing to... on account of...
in order to... so that... for...*



Write about your success story!

Complete step 2.

1



Give your reasons and intentions for setting up the business.

***As a result of... since... owing to... on account of...
in order to... so that... for...***

2



What happened? Were there any mistakes or accidental discoveries?

***Therefore... hence... so... as a consequence...
unintentionally... by mistake... inadvertently...***



Write about your success story!

Complete step 3.

1



Give your reasons and intentions for setting up the business.

***As a result of... since... owing to... on account of...
in order to... so that... for...***

2



What happened? Were there any mistakes or accidental discoveries?

***Therefore... hence... so... as a consequence...
unintentionally... by mistake... inadvertently...***

3



Add background information or describe other factors that contributed to the success.

This relies on (the fact that)... to rest on... to bank on... This can be traced back to...



End of the lesson

Idiom

Accidentally on purpose

Meaning: when you do something deliberately but pretend it was an accident or unintentional.

Example: I accidentally on purpose left my wallet at the counter so I would have an excuse to go and talk to the cute waiter.



Additional practice



Fill in the gaps

Complete the sentences with a word or phrase from the red box.

- 1 I had such a _____ encounter this morning. I bumped into my old roommate at the supermarket, who told me about a very interesting opportunity.
- 2 Life is so _____. A year ago I could barely pay my rent, and today I'm about to buy my first home.
- 3 The cashier _____ gave me \$400 change instead of \$40... Should I say something?
- 4 I once boarded the wrong plane _____ and ended up in Alaska instead of Amsterdam!
- 5 She _____ let slip that she's planning to quit her job.

unpredictable
unintentionally
inadvertently
by mistake
random

Discuss



Have you ever got on the wrong plane or train or bus by mistake? Where did you end up?



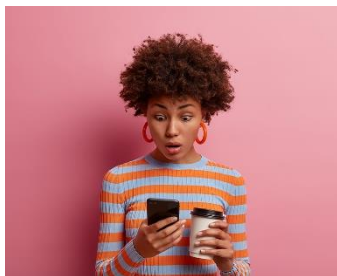
Have you ever inadvertently said or done something that you wish you hadn't?



It all started when...

Write a short text about someone or something that led to an important discovery in your life. It could be a teacher, or a colleague, or simply a random encounter – and perhaps it changed your life in some way, big or small.

owing to
on account of
as a result (of)
because (of)





Answer key

P.17: 1. random 2. unpredictable 3. unintentionally/inadvertently 4. by mistake 5. inadvertently



Summary

Expressing cause:

- *because (of); as a result (of); as; since; owing to; on account of*
- *We're investing more into research **because of** a recent economic report on the industry.*
- ***As a result of** your behaviour, I have no choice but to suspend you from the team.*

Expressing purpose:

- *in order to; so that; for; to*
- *We are implementing new processes **so that** things will be more efficient.*
- *I'm buying some plants **to** brighten the place up a bit.*

Expressing consequence:

- *therefore; hence; as a consequence; so; thus; thereby*
- *Sales had dropped. **Therefore**, we had to do something drastic.*
- *They wouldn't raise his salary, **so** he left the company.*

Expressing lack of reason or intent:

- *accidentally; unintentionally; by mistake; inadvertently; random; unpredictable; accidentally on purpose*
- *Dr Waters **accidentally** left the report in the lab.*
- *I **inadvertently** caused a small explosion in the kitchen.*



Vocabulary

because of

as a result of

as

since

owing to

on account of

in order to

so that

for

to

therefore

as a consequence

thereby

accidentally

accidentally

unintentionally

inadvertently

random

unpredictable

accidentally on purpose

