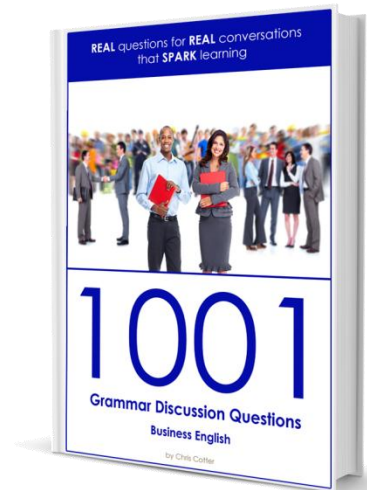
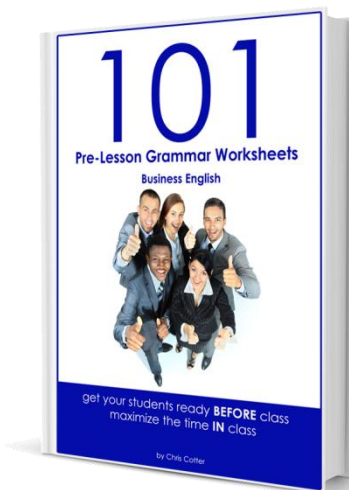
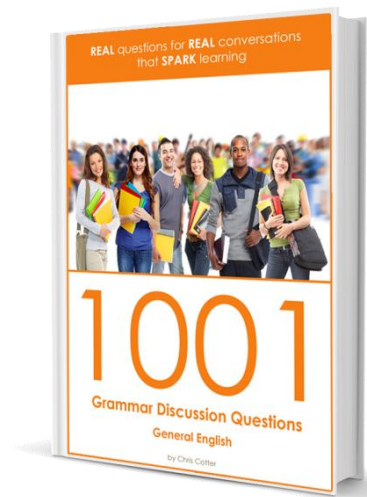
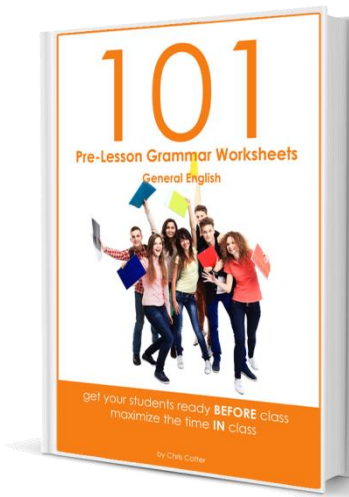
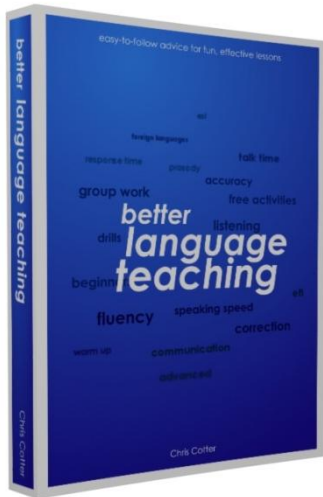


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dGRAMMAR EXPLANATION

What is because and so?

Both *because* and *so* are conjunctions which comment on actions. They seem similar at first. However, *because* provides the reason for an action, and *so* gives the result of or response to an action. For example, look at the following sentences:

I went to America **because** I wanted to study English.

Because I wanted to study English, I went to America.

I wanted to study English, **so** I went to America.

What is the sentence structure?

Because is a subordinating conjunction and should follow the structures below:

main clause (S+V+O/C) | *because* | subordinate clause (S+V+O/C)

Because | subordinate clause (S+V+O/C) | , | main clause (S+V+O/C)

I didn't buy the dress | *because* | it cost too much.

Because | the dress cost too much | , | I didn't buy it.

So is a coordinating conjunction, and shows the result of an action. Here is the structure:

main clause (S+V+O/C) | , | *so* | coordinate clause (S+V+O/C)

I didn't sleep well last night | , | *so* | I felt very tired today.

How are because and so used?

As has been mentioned, *because* and *so* connect two ideas. *Because* provides a reason for the action stated in the main clause. We can also say that *because* + *subordinate clause* explains a cause for the action. Moreover, it often introduces information the listener may not know. For example:

He studied hard **because** he wanted to go to America. = His desire made him to study hard.

I stayed home **because** it snowed heavily. = The heavy snow caused me to stay home.

Tim quit **because** he hated his job. = Tim's hatred for work made him quit.

On the other hand, *so* tells the listener or reader of the result or response to the main action. It may simply state the effect of the main clause, as in the following examples:

GRAMMAR EXPLANATION (con't)

I got an MBA last spring, **so** I found a better job this fall.

He saw his friend at the coffee shop, **so** they talked a long time.

Her doctor told her to exercise more, **so** she joined a gym last week.

However, *so* + *coordinate clause* may also show the logical continuation of two actions. For example:

Bill bought the peanut butter, **so** Kelly bought the jelly for their sandwiches.

Samantha went to the store for snacks, **so** Alan tidied up before the guests came for dinner.

I finished my work at home, **so** my wife took the kids to a movie.

In both examples, the coordinate clauses follow the main clauses to complete an act.

Is there additional information on because and so?

No, there is nothing else on either *because* or *so*.