

Because vs. Because of (Due to / Owing to)

Sentence Pattern:

Because [sentence], [sentence]

Because of [noun/phrase], [sentence]

You write a complete sentence (an “independent clause”) after **because**, but you only write a noun or a phrase (a “dependent clause”) after **because of (or due to/owing to)**.

Examples:

- Because it was raining, school was cancelled.
- Because of the rain, school was cancelled.
- John moved to California because the weather is good there.
- John moved to California because of the good weather.
- Due to her hard work, Lilian was promoted to Assistant Manager.
- Because she works so hard, Lilian was promoted to Assistant Manager.

Rewrite each of the following sentences twice – once with “because”, and once with “because of”.
(See page 79 for sample answers.)

1. Chris has a bad temper, and that’s why he got in trouble.

2. Many people have died this summer. The reason is the hot weather.

3. I am greatly interested in engineering; therefore, I want to go to MIT.

4. There was a flood yesterday; that’s why this road is closed.
