

# English Ladder

Student Workbook

## Concept #09: Causal Phrases

A polished self-study handout designed for print or tablet use. Read the concept, notice the pattern, and then complete the matching practice set on your own.



Grammar Concepts #09

Key Points

Sentence Styles and Phrases

Examples and Explanations

Additional Examples

### Visual anchor

Use the concept poster to spotlight the main language pattern in **Concept #09: Causal Phrases** and keep the explanation visible during practice and discussion.

**ENGLISH LADDER**

Concept #09 ► **Causal Phrases**

There are 3 basic sentence styles used to communicate causation. **Causal Direction: A ► B**  
Cause Effect

① A. \_\_\_\_ B.    ② A \_\_\_\_ B.    ③ B \_\_\_\_ A.

This causes	causes	is caused by
This creates	creates	is created by
This produces	produces	is produced by
This leads to	leads to	is a product of
As a result,	results in	is a result of
This results in		is due to
Consequently,		is a consequence of

**Examples:**  
1: I gamble. This has led to my poverty.  
2: My gambling has led to my poverty.  
3: My poverty is due to my gambling.

**affects** 0.1%-99% — Is a contributing cause  
**effects** 100% — Is the single cause (scientific)

**results in**

**Others:** Due to A, B. | As a result of A, B. | The effect of A is B.

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## Core Idea

Causal phrases are used to communicate the cause and effect relationship between two actions or events. This concept is essential for conveying how one event leads to another. There are three basic sentence styles used to express causation:

## Key Points

- A causes B
- A is caused by B
- B is caused by A

### Causal Direction: A →■ B (Cause →■ Effect)

Let's explore the different ways to express causation in English, as illustrated in the image.

## Sentence Styles and Phrases

### 1. A causes B

In this structure, the first event (A) causes the second event (B). This is a direct way to show causation.

- This causes: "The heavy rain causes flooding in the area."
- This creates: "Pollution creates health problems for many people."
- This produces: "The new policy produces positive outcomes for the company."
- This leads to: "Lack of exercise leads to obesity."
- As a result: "The team worked hard. As a result, they won the championship."
- This results in: "The accident results in traffic delays."
- Consequently: "The company failed to innovate. Consequently, it went bankrupt."

### 2. A is caused by B

In this structure, the second event (B) is the cause of the first event (A). This is useful for emphasizing the cause.

- Is caused by: "Flooding is caused by heavy rain."
- Is created by: "Health problems are created by pollution."
- Is produced by: "Positive outcomes are produced by the new policy."
- Is a product of: "Obesity is a product of lack of exercise."



- Is a result of: "The championship win is a result of the team's hard work."
- Is due to: "Traffic delays are due to the accident."
- Is a consequence of: "The bankruptcy is a consequence of the company's failure to innovate."

### 3. B is caused by A

This structure is less common but still important. It is often used in scientific or technical contexts to describe results.

- Is affected by: "The climate is affected by greenhouse gas emissions."
- Is a contributing cause of: "Smoking is a contributing cause of lung cancer."

## Examples and Explanation

### Style 1: A causes B

- Sentence: "The sun causes plants to grow."
- Explanation: The sun (A) is the cause, and the growth of plants (B) is the effect.
- Sentence: "Poor diet leads to health issues."
- Explanation: A poor diet (A) causes health issues (B).

### Style 2: A is caused by B

- Sentence: "Plants' growth is caused by the sun."
- Explanation: The growth of plants (A) is caused by the sun (B).
- Sentence: "Health issues are due to a poor diet."
- Explanation: Health issues (A) are due to a poor diet (B).

### Style 3: B is caused by A

- Sentence: "The growth of plants is a result of sunlight."
- Explanation: The growth of plants (B) is a result of sunlight (A).
- Sentence: "Health problems are a consequence of poor nutrition."
- Explanation: Health problems (B) are a consequence of poor nutrition (A).

## Additional Examples

- Due to A, B.
- Sentence: "Due to the rain, the match was postponed."
- Explanation: The match was postponed (B) due to the rain (A).



- As a result of A, B.
- Sentence: "As a result of the new law, many businesses had to close."
- Explanation: Many businesses had to close (B) as a result of the new law (A).
- The effect of A is B.
- Sentence: "The effect of global warming is more extreme weather conditions."
- Explanation: More extreme weather conditions (B) are the effect of global warming (A).

## Conclusion

Understanding and using causal phrases correctly helps in clearly conveying the cause and effect relationship in sentences. This is particularly important in both spoken and written English for explaining processes, giving reasons, and discussing results. By practicing these structures, non-native speakers can improve their ability to express complex ideas effectively.

## Practice Exercises

- Create sentences using "This causes," "As a result," and "Consequently."
- Rewrite the following sentences to use the "is caused by" structure:
- "The company's success is due to its innovative products."
- "Obesity is a result of poor dietary habits."
- Use the "Due to A, B" structure in your own sentences.

By practicing these exercises, you can become more comfortable with expressing causation in English.



## Practice Check

Answer the quiz questions below with the best causal terms. (For some items, both options may be correct.)

### ITEM 01

**The heavy rain \_\_\_\_\_ flooding in the area.**

- a) causes
- b) is caused by

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

### ITEM 02

**Flooding in the area \_\_\_\_\_ the heavy rain.**

- a) causes
- b) is caused by

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

### ITEM 03

**Lack of exercise \_\_\_\_\_ obesity.**

- a) leads to
- b) is led by

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

### ITEM 04

**Obesity \_\_\_\_\_ lack of exercise.**

- a) leads to
- b) is a product of

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 05**

**Pollution \_\_\_\_\_ health problems.**

- a) creates
- b) is created by

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 06**

**Health problems \_\_\_\_\_ pollution.**

- a) creates
- b) are created by

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 07**

**The new policy \_\_\_\_\_ positive outcomes for the company.**

- a) produces
- b) is produced by

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 08**

**Positive outcomes for the company \_\_\_\_\_ the new policy.**

- a) produces
- b) are produced by

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_



## ITEM 09

**Hard work \_\_\_\_\_ success.**

- a) leads to
- b) is a result of

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

## ITEM 10

**Success \_\_\_\_\_ hard work.**

- a) leads to
- b) is a result of

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

## ITEM 11

**The accident \_\_\_\_\_ traffic delays.**

- a) results in
- b) is a result of

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

## ITEM 12

**Traffic delays \_\_\_\_\_ the accident.**

- a) results in
- b) are a result of

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 13**

**The team worked hard. \_\_\_\_\_, they won the championship.**

a) As a result

b) Due to

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 14**

**The championship win \_\_\_\_\_ the team's hard work.**

a) is a result of

b) results in

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 15**

**The company's failure to innovate \_\_\_\_\_ bankruptcy.**

a) results in

b) is due to

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 16**

**The bankruptcy \_\_\_\_\_ the company's failure to innovate.**

a) results in

b) is due to

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 17**

**Global warming \_\_\_\_\_ more extreme weather conditions.**

- a) causes
- b) is a consequence of

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 18**

**More extreme weather conditions \_\_\_\_\_ global warming.**

- a) causes
- b) are a consequence of

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 19**

**The pollution \_\_\_\_\_ health problems in the city.**

- a) leads to
- b) is led by

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 20**

**Health problems in the city \_\_\_\_\_ pollution.**

- a) lead to
- b) are led by

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 21**

**The lack of funding \_\_\_\_\_ the project's failure.**

- a) results in
- b) is a result of

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 22**

**The project's failure \_\_\_\_\_ the lack of funding.**

- a) results in
- b) is a result of

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 23**

**The new technology \_\_\_\_\_ increased productivity.**

- a) produces
- b) is produced by

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 24**

**Increased productivity \_\_\_\_\_ the new technology.**

- a) produces
- b) is produced by

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_



## Self-check Answer Key

Use the key after you have completed every item on your own.

**ITEM 01**

a) causes

**ITEM 02**

b) is caused by

**ITEM 03**

a) leads to

**ITEM 04**

b) is a product of

**ITEM 05**

a) creates

**ITEM 06**

b) are created by

**ITEM 07**

a) produces

**ITEM 08**

b) are produced by

**ITEM 09**

a) leads to

**ITEM 10**

b) is a result of

**ITEM 11**

a) results in

**ITEM 12**

b) are a result of

**ITEM 13**

a) As a result

**ITEM 14**

a) is a result of



ITEM 15

a) results in

ITEM 16

b) is due to

ITEM 17

a) causes

ITEM 18

b) are a consequence of

ITEM 19

a) leads to

ITEM 20

b) are led by

ITEM 21

a) results in

ITEM 22

b) is a result of

ITEM 23

a) produces

ITEM 24

b) is produced by