

から、ので、し for Cause or Reason

から "Because"

- ① There's only one reason
- ② Has a nuance of putting a blame or justify your action because of something
- ③ Used for sequential events
- ④ Used for volition, requests
- ⑤ Used for states

DONT's: Cannot be used for potential form. て form is used instead

ので "Therefore"

- ① A cause and effect (a thing that makes something happen)
- ② Feeling is neutral; Objectively presents a cause and effect relationship as a natural course of events
- ③ Used in written and spoken language; Gentler sounding
- ④ ので is used to connect phrases to which indicates that there is a willful action. It is your own decision to do it.

DONT's: Cannot be used to reply to a question. から is used instead. Not used to express order or prohibition

し for multiple reasons

- ① Gives a nuance that there's more reason because the one reason provided
- ② We want to suggest something but we don't want to sound so opinionated.
- ③ Sounds gentle
- ④ We want to simply tell that it's not the only reason why
- ⑤ Simply list multiple reasons and lead to a conclusion

DONT's: Cannot use し when answering a question. You should use から instead. Unless you are listing multiple answers. You have to end the sentence with から/ですから though. それに is used often.

電車がおくれたから、まにあいませんでした。 I didn't make it in time because the train was late. (The speaker is blaming the train and is suggesting that it is not her fault.)

すみません。今日は仕事があるので、やめておきます。 Sorry. I will pass because I have some work to do.

今日はしごともあるし、やめとく(やめておく)。 I will pass because I have some work to do. (There's more reasons why she will pass; not only she has work to do)

から vs ので vs し

<reason> から、<result>

It is <result> because <reason>

A. 【疲れた】つかれたの?

B. 昨日、夜 10 時まで仕事をしていたから。 Because yesterday I was working until 11pm.

Note: から can be used to give a reason in reply to a question.

<reason> ので / し、<result>

A. 【疲れた】つかれたの? B. 昨日、夜 10 時まで仕事をしていたので。

B. 昨日、夜 10 時まで仕事をいたしましたし。

Note <reason> ので and し cant be used to answer question. から shall be used. Unless you are listing multiple answers, し can be used but you have to end the sentence with から/ですから.*



から vs ので vs し (cont)

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て form, たら、で for cause and reason

Verb/Adj て-form for Cause or Reason

て form of Verbs or Adjectives as the cause or reason that produces a consequence. ① If the Result or Sentence 2 is a verb or an adjective that expresses feeling, or ② if it's a potential verb or ③ a verb to express a state, then the cause or reason sentence will have to change to te-form (て-form).

1.1 Verbs and Adjectives that express Feelings 質問に答えられなくて、恥ずかしかったです。I was embarrassed because I couldn't answer the question.

1.2 Potential Verbs that express states which do not contain volition 月曜日は【都合】つごうが悪くて、【会議】かいぎに【出席】しゅっせできません。I am not able to attend the meeting because I am not free on Monday.

1.3 Situations in the Past : Events that happened in the past can also be used in Sentence 2... 【事故】じこがあつて、電車が遅れてしまいました。The train was delayed due to the accident.

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で for Cause or Reason

The "Noun" that is often used with this particle de (で) as a cause is a noun which indicates a particular kind of event. These events are mostly natural phenomena, disasters, happenings, events, etc. □Ex. 事故 (jiko - accident)、火事 (kaji - fire)、病気 (byouki - sickness)

DONT's 1. Cannot have an expression containing the speaker's volitional action in the Result sentence. Therefore this particle is used in the following way:

病気で学校を休みました。I was absent from school due to illness.

Reason> たら、<result>

① Used for unexpected occurrence ② Result is not something that you are expecting / accidental (intransitive)

このスイッチを押したら、電気がついた。I pushed this button then the light turned on. Intransitive: Did not know that turning the button will turn the light on. The result was not something that you are expecting.



て form、たら、で for cause and reason (cont)

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て-form vs から / ので

<reason> て、<result>

<reason> て cannot take volition, sequential events and use potential verbs. Therefore, から / ので shall be used.

✕田中先生には本当にお世話になって、プレゼントを【用意しました】ようしました。

<reason> から / ので、<result>

□□田中先生には本当にお世話になったので、プレゼントを用意しました。
Tanaka sensei helped me a lot so I prepared a gift for him today.

Note: Preparing a present is a willful act. It is your own decision to do it so から / ので must be used.

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✕天気が悪くて、【富士山】ふじさんが見えません。

□□天気が悪いから、【富士山】ふじさんが見えません。 Mount Fuji cannot be seen because the weather is bad.

Note: 見えません is a potential verb. Therefore, て for cannot be used.

✕明日試験があつて、今日【準備】じゅんびしなければなりません。

□□明日試験があるから、今日【準備】じゅんびしなければなりません。
There is a test tomorrow, so I have to prepare for it today.

Note: Sentence 1 and Sentence 2 are sequential events. In other words, Sentence 1 takes place first and Sentence 2 takes place after that.

て-form vs たら

<Reason> て、<result>

Used if you already expected or knew what will happen

このスイッチを押して、電気がつけた。I pushed this button and turned the light on.

Transitive: You already know that pushing the button will turn the light on.

<Reason> たら、<result>

① Used for unexpected occurrence ② Result is not something that you are expecting / accidental (intransitive)

このスイッチを押したら、電気がついた。I pushed this button then the light turned on.

Intransitive: Did not know that turning the button will turn the light on. The result was not something that you are expecting.

<Verb> のは <reason> からです**

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<Verb> のは <reason> からです** (cont)

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-The word "reason" can be replaced with の (the shorthand version of the word for the generic "something" こと) because it is obvious from the context you are giving a reason so we don't need to explicitly use that word.

の = acts like the reason why;

は = topic particle;

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<Verb、い/な Adj> のは <reason> からです

"The reason why (verb) is because (reason)"

のに as "But"

"But" "in spite of" "despite" "although" "even though"

のに "Even if;"

のに: ㊦ Cannot be used in something hypothetical "What ifs" "Even if" ㊧ のに can be used at the end of the sentence

コーヒーメーカーを買ったのは、朝にカフェに行く時間がないからです。The reason I bought a coffee machine is because I don't have time to go to the cafe in the morning.

-Used when frustrated; surprised (but usually used when annoyed; bad feeling) (Despite the fact that I did this, the result is not what I wanted and I'm frustrated)

✗今こくはく【告白】するのに、うまく行かないよ。Even if I confess my love to her now, it will not go well.

Instead of: ピカチュウは可愛いから、好き。I like Pikachu because he is cute.

明日はけっこうしきなのに、たいふうがくるって。The wedding is tomorrow but it says a typhoon is coming.

早起【はやお】きしたのに。Even though I woke up early... (It got cancelled).

のは : ピカチュウが好きなのは可愛いからです。
The reason why I like Pikachu is because it's cute.



