

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 時まで仕事をしていましたし。

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)

*

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.

*

*

*

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)

*

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.

*

✕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**

*



<Verb> のは <reason> からです** (cont)

*

-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;

*

<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.



