

から、ので、し for Cause or Reason

から "Because" (SUBJECTIVE)

- 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" (OBJECTIVE)

- 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
- ④ Softens the tone which is why it is often used to express a reason gently, to ask for permission or to make an excuse.
- ⑤ 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.

今日は仕事もあるし、【辞めとく】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)

1.1 S2 expresses order or prohibition

1.1 A cause and effect

□□【危ない】あぶないから、【機会】きかいに【触る】さわるな。Don't touch the machine because it's dangerous.

タイに2年住んでいたなので、タイ語が少し話せます。I live in Thailand for two years, that's why I can speak Thai.

C

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から、ので、し for Cause or Reason (cont)

×【危ない】あぶないので、【機会】きかいに【触る】さわるな。 -
Don't touch the machine because it's dangerous.

1.2 Softens the tone (used to reason gently, ask permission, make an excuse)

気分が悪いので、【早退】そうたいしてもいいですか。 I'm not feeling well so can I leave early?

【用事】ようじがありますので、お先に失礼します。 I have something to do. Pardon me for leaving first.

から vs ので vs し

<reason> から、<result>

<reason> ので / し、<result>

It is <result> because <reason>

A. 【疲れた】つかれたの？

A. 【疲れた】つかれたの？

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

×B. 昨日、夜 10 時まで仕事をしていましたし。

×B. 昨日、夜 10 時まで仕事をしていましたので。

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

★★Note: <reason> ので and し can't 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.*

て form、たら、で for cause and reason

Verb/Adj て-form/なくて for Cause or Reason

(NOUN) で for Cause or Reason

Reason> たら、<result>

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

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

"Because of (natural phenomena, happenings, events)..."

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

DONT's 1. S2 must NOT contain volition (will, orders, invitation, request)

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)

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.

×【危ない】あぶなくて【機械】きかいに触る】さわらないでください。It is dangerous, so please do not touch the machine.

DONT's 1. Sentence predicate must NOT contain volition (will, orders, invitation, request)

□□【危ない】あぶないですから、【機械】きかいに触る】さわらないでください。It is dangerous, so please do not touch the machine.

×病気で、明日会社を休みたいです。
Because of illness, I want to take a day off tomorrow.

DONT's 2. S2 should not come first. It should be a sequential event.

□□病気で、明日会社を休みたいです。
Because of illness, I want to take a day off tomorrow.

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

×明日【会議】かいぎがあつて、今日【準備】じゅんびしなければなりません。The meeting will be held tomorrow so we have to make preparations for the day.

【火事】かじで家が【焼く】やけました。Because of fire, the house was burned down.

□□明日【会議】かいぎがありますから、今日【準備】じゅんびしなければなりません。The meeting will be held tomorrow so we have to make preparations for the day.

【地震】じしんで、ビルが【倒れる】たおれました。Because of the earthquake, a building collapsed.

1.1 Verbs and Adjectives that express Feelings such as: びっくりする、【安心】あんしんする、【困る】こまる (to be worried/ troubled)、【寂しい】さびしい、【嬉しい】うれしい、【残念】ざんねんだ。

【台風】たいふうで、【新幹線】しんかんせんが止まりました。Because of the typhoon, bullet trains have stopped.

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.

*1.1 Negative potential verb (not a volition)

友達が会えなくて寂しいです。I'm sad because I can't meet my friends.

病気で、旅行に行けませんでした。Because of illness, I want to take a day off tomorrow.

1.2 Potential Verbs that express states which do not contain volition

*1.2 A situation/happening from the past

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.

病気で、会社を休みました。Because of illness, I want to take a day off tomorrow.

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

1.3 Situations in the Past : Events that happened in the past can also be used in Sentence 2...

【事故】じこがあって、電車が遅れてしまいました。 The train was delayed due to the accident.

て-form vs から / ので

<Reason> て、<result>

<Reason> から / ので、<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】よういしました。

□□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>

<Reason> たら、<result>

Used if you already expected or knew what will happen

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て、電気がつけた。 I pushed this button and turned the light on.

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.

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て-form vs たら (cont)

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

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

*

<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: ㊶ Cannot be used in something hypothetical "What ifs" "Even if" ㊷ 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.

<Verb> のは <reason> からです

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

-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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