

Reason Link-Up Answer Key

1. F. The soccer game was canceled because it started to rain.
2. J. I wore my raincoat because it was pouring rain.
3. C. The baby cried because of the bright sun in her eyes.
4. B. The parade was delayed because of the heavy snow.
5. G. She missed the bus because of her alarm not working.
6. E. We stayed inside because of the thunderstorm.
7. H. The plants grew quickly because of the rich soil.
8. D. He was late for class because the teacher started early.
9. I. The picnic was ruined because the lightning was scary.
10. A. I couldn't see the movie because I forgot my ticket.

Teacher's Guide

- **Skill Focus:** Understanding how *because* introduces a clause (a reason with a subject and verb) while *because of* introduces a noun or noun phrase.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - Offer sentence strips so learners can physically match halves before writing.
 - For English learners, highlight the words that follow *because* (verb) and *because of* (noun).
- **Engagement Ideas:**
 - Use a "Cause Hunt" game: students find cause-and-effect statements in a story or article and replace connectors with *because* or *because of* correctly.
 - Let pairs race to fix or match causes and effects on the board.
- **Extension Ideas:**
 - Have students write a mini paragraph about a surprising event using at least three *because* and *because of* sentences.
 - Encourage students to create their own set of mixed-up sentences for classmates to solve.