

Complex Cause-and-Effect Links Answer Key

Sample Answers

1. We canceled the picnic **because it was raining heavily.**
(Also acceptable: "since it was raining heavily" or "as it was raining heavily.")
2. She earned a high grade **since she studied all week.**
3. He was late for school **because the alarm clock didn't ring.**
4. The teacher was disappointed **as I forgot my homework.**
5. We ordered a large pizza **because we were hungry.**

Challenge Sentences - Answers will vary. Examples:

1. The electricity went out **since the storm damaged the power lines.**
2. I couldn't find my backpack **because I left it at my friend's house.**
3. The dog barked loudly **as a stranger walked past the gate.**

Teacher Guide / Notes

- Encourage students to notice that **because, since, and as** all show cause-and-effect, but they may slightly change tone:
 - **because** = most common, clear reason
 - **since** = often suggests time or softer reasoning
 - **as** = more formal or less emphatic
- Allow multiple correct answers: the key here is the **logical relationship** between cause and effect.
- Extension idea: Flip the clauses (*Because it was raining heavily, we canceled the picnic*) to reinforce flexibility in sentence order.