



BECAUSE → BUT → SO

Build better sentences. Build better thinking.



THE IDEA

A simple sentence building routine that helps EAL learners explain ideas, show contrast and give reasons. It improves speaking and writing and builds academic language.



IN THE CLASSROOM

Give students a topic, question or statement. Students build three connected sentences using Because, But and So. Share aloud or turn into short paragraphs. Display sentence starters and model first. Use across subjects to build reasoning and explanations.

HOW TO USE

1



BECAUSE

Give a reason.

Explain why something happens. Use cause and effect language.

Because war broke out, many people had to leave their homes.

2



BUT

Add a contrast.

Show a different idea or opposing point. Use contrast language.

But not everyone agreed with the decision to leave.

3



SO

Show the result.

Explain what happens as a result. Use consequence language.

So families had to make difficult choices.



WHY IT WORKS

It builds logical thinking, improves sentence fluency and helps EAL learners structure clear explanations.



EAL UPGRADE

Provide sentence starters and key vocabulary: *Because..., But..., So...*
Add useful connectors: *as a result, therefore, this means that, in contrast.*
Model using examples from the topic.



TRY IT TOMORROW

Choose a discussion question or statement. Challenge students to build a Because → But → So sentence chain. Share and discuss the different ideas.



TEACHER LANGUAGE

"What happened? Why? What was the result?"
"Use Because for the reason."
"Use But for the contrast."
"Use So for the result."

**DUNCAN
ROSE**

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