



EXPLAIN MEANS CAUSE AND EFFECT

Teach the language that shows why.



THE IDEA

Explaining isn't just giving an answer – it's showing why something happened.

EAL learners often know the content but need the language to express cause and effect.

Simple structures help them give clearer, stronger explanations.



IN THE CLASSROOM

- Pre-teach key connectives and phrases.
- Show examples in your subject.
- Use a simple sentence frame.
- Give time to practise in pairs or groups.
- Use it in speaking and writing.

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IDENTIFY THE LANGUAGE

Teach key cause and effect words.

Choose a few useful connectives.

because

as a result

so

which means

therefore

leads to

2



MODEL IT

Show it in context.

Use a clear example from your subject.



It rained heavily



so the river flooded.

3



PRACTISE AND APPLY

Let students use it.

Give a short task to explain why.

"This happened because ..."

"As a result ..."

"This means ..."



WHY IT WORKS

- Helps students give clearer, more detailed explanations.
- Builds spoken and written academic language.
- Supports understanding in all subjects.
- Makes reasoning more visible.



EAL UPGRADE

Create a cause and effect phrase bank with sentence frames.



TRY IT TOMORROW

Choose one topic. Give students a simple cause and effect prompt and a useful sentence frame.



TEACHER LANGUAGE

"Why did this happen?"
"What was the result?"
"Can you explain using because or so?"