

FUMC ESL 10-16-2017 High Intermediate Lesson

Using Because and Because of:

Ana can't reach the smoke alarm because the ceiling is too high.
Ana can't reach the smoke alarm because of the high ceiling.
Because the ceiling is too high, Ana can't reach the smoke alarm.
Because of the high ceiling, Ana can't reach the smoke alarm.

Put **because** or **because of** in the blank.

Lee wanted to bake a cake _____ it was her neighbor Marty's birthday. Lee needed to go to the store _____ she didn't have any flour. However, her car had a flat tire. _____ this problem, she couldn't drive to the store. She couldn't walk to the store _____ the distance. It was more than a mile away. Lee had a clever idea. She went to Marty and asked to borrow a cup of flour. Marty was happy to help _____ she had a lot of flour and she was a good neighbor. Two hours later, Lee returned to Marty's house with a beautiful cake. When Marty opened the door, Lee shouted, "Happy Birthday". Marty was very surprised and happy. _____ the nice surprise, Marty had a wonderful birthday.

Look at the **problem and reason chart**. Write a question and an answer using **because** or **because of**. The first one is done for you.

Problem	Reason
1-You couldn't sleep last night.	noisy neighbors
2-You couldn't make a cake.	didn't have any eggs
3-The neighbors couldn't lock the door.	lock was broken
4-You couldn't change the battery in the smoke alarm.	didn't have a ladder
5-The children couldn't play outside.	the rain
6-You couldn't come to school.	car had a flat tire
7-You couldn't stay in the U.S.	visa expired
8-You had an accident	driving too fast
9-Jim failed the test	didn't study
10-The trains didn't run	bad weather

1. I couldn't sleep last night because of the noisy neighbors.
2. _____

3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Finish these sentences with because and again with because of. Read your sentences to the group. Discuss your reasons. Are your answers similar to others?

1. I am where I am today because/ because of ...
2. _____ is one of my favorite days of the year because/ because of....
3. I'm grateful to my mother because/ because of....
4. I didn't learn English as a child because/ because of...
5. Because/ because of _____, I live in Austin now.

Match the idiom to the definition.

Idiom	Definition
You can <u>level with</u> me.	limit
Are you <u>on board</u> with the changes we made?	don't know
It's the best restaurant in town, <u>bar none</u> .	get revenge
The city <u>put a cap on</u> how much landlords can charge.	period of good luck
<u>Take heart</u> . Things will get better.	in agreement
What's for dinner tonight? <u>Beats me</u> .	legal or ethical
I'm going to <u>make him pay</u> for the way he treated me.	tell the truth
James is <u>a man of his word</u> .	be brave
I'm not sure his business is on the <u>up and up</u> .	honest
Her song is number one on the charts. Her musical career is <u>on a roll</u> .	with no exceptions