



Since Nik was a boy, he's been afraid of lifts. And since he lives in a flat on the 21st floor, this means he has to climb 21 flights of stairs in order to get home every day. He also has to walk down 21 flights so that he can get to work or to the shops.

When he first moved into his flat, just under a year ago, it took him 20 minutes to climb the stairs. But because of his daily stair-climbing workouts, he soon became very fit. He now runs from the ground floor to his front door in just under three minutes.

As 21 floors are no longer a challenge, Nik has signed up for his first international tower running race. He will be running up 10,000 steps in the company of professional athletes, so that he can put his new-found stair-running fitness to the test!

Presentation

as, since

The conjunctions *as* and *since* can be used as:

- conjunctions of time:

as = while, at the same time

He often listens to podcasts as he runs up the 21 flights to his flat.

since = starting from a certain event or point in time

Since Nik was a boy, he's been afraid of lifts.

- conjunctions that introduce an explanation of why someone does something or why a certain situation exists:

As/Since he's afraid of lifts, he has to go up the stairs.

because, because of, due to

You can also use *because*, *because of* and *due to* to introduce an explanation of why someone does something or why something happens. *Because* is a conjunction and is followed by a clause. *Because of* and *due to* are both prepositions and are followed by a noun or *-ing* form of the verb.

because + clause: *Nik climbs the stairs because he's afraid of lifts.*

because of / due to + noun: *Nik has to climb the stairs because of / due to his fear of lifts.*

because of / due to + *-ing* form: *Nik is fit because of / due to climbing so many stairs.*

in order to, in order that, so as to, so that

Use these expressions to introduce the intended purpose of an action.

Use *in order to* and *so as to* + infinitive: *He has to climb 21 flights of stairs in order to / so as to get home every day.*

To form the negative, use *in order not to* + infinitive: *He has to be very careful in order not to fall.*

Use *in order that* and *so that* + clause: *He has signed up for a tower running race in order that / so that he can test his fitness.*

In informal speech and writing, it is possible to omit *that* after *so*: *He's running the race so he can see how fit he is.*

1 Choose the best position in the sentence (a or b) for the word in bold.

- 1 **because** (a) Because our flat is on the first floor on a busy street, (b) it can get very noisy.
- 2 **as** (a) there are three bars on our street, (b) it gets particularly noisy at night.
- 3 **due to** (a) it's also noisy (b) the buses and taxis that drive by at all hours.
- 4 **in order to** (a) I have to wear earplugs (b) get to sleep at night.
- 5 **so** (a) my wife sometimes takes sleeping pills (b) she can sleep through the noise.
- 6 **so that** (a) our children sleep in the back room (b) the noise doesn't disturb them.
- 7 **since** (a) early mornings are the only quiet time (b) the bars are shut and there's very little traffic.
- 8 **as** (a) I like to sleep late when I can, (b) the mornings are so quiet.

2 Choose the correct options.

- 1 They closed the road to traffic *in order to* / *in order that* let the procession through.
- 2 The shop remained closed for four days *so as to* / *so that* they could redecorate.
- 3 She opened the window *because* / *because of* it was hot in the car.
- 4 We could hardly see the road ahead of us *because* / *because of* the fog.
- 5 All classes were cancelled that week due to *the staff were ill* / *sickness among the staff*.

3 Join the two sentences using the connector in brackets.

- 1 I signed up for an intensive course. I wanted to learn to speak Chinese. (in order to)
.....
- 2 I didn't go out last night. I was feeling really tired. (as)
.....
- 3 There was heavy rain last night. Some roads are closed to traffic. (due to)
.....
- 4 He wanted to show her he still loved her. He bought her some flowers. (so as to)
.....
- 5 You don't really like football. I didn't buy you a ticket for the match. (since)
.....
- 6 A new law has been passed. Many small businesses will close. (because of)
.....
- 7 One hundred new schools have been built. More children have access to education. (in order that)
.....
- 8 We can go out tonight. My brother has offered to babysit. (so)
.....