

GIVING REASONS AND EXPLANATIONS

A2-B1 | Conversation practice examples for explaining why

Conversation: Missing the last part of a film

Mia	You left before the film finished last night. Was something wrong?
Leo	I went home because my neighbour called. Water was coming through her kitchen ceiling.
Mia	Oh no. Was it coming from your flat?
Leo	Yes. The washing machine hose had broken, so I needed to turn the water off quickly.
Mia	That sounds awful. Is everything all right now?
Leo	Mostly. The plumber fixed the hose, but he needs to check the machine tomorrow. This means that I can't use it yet.
Mia	Let me know if you need somewhere to wash your clothes.
Leo	Thanks. I'll bring a few things over. The reason is that I need clean clothes for work tomorrow.

Key phrases: because / so / This means that / The reason is

Conversation: Taking a different route

Zoe	Why are we walking towards the station? The usual bus stop's the other way.
Max	The main road's closed because of a broken water pipe. Our bus isn't stopping there today.
Zoe	I didn't know that. Can't we catch it from the next street?
Max	We can, but it goes a long way round. As a result , the journey takes about twenty minutes longer.
Zoe	And we've only got half an hour before the concert starts.
Max	Exactly. That's why I thought the train would be better. The ride takes ten minutes.
Zoe	All right. Do we need to buy tickets before we get on?
Max	Yes, but we can buy them on our phones while we walk.

Key phrases: because of / As a result / That's why

Create your own conversation

Choose one prompt. Use at least two key phrases and include a natural response and follow-up.

Prompt 1: Explain why you had to leave an event unexpectedly. Answer questions about what happened afterwards.

Prompt 2: Explain a change to a familiar travel plan. Connect the problem, its effect and your alternative.