

PURPOSE & RESULT CLAUSES

B2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Practice | 35-45 minutes

Learn and practise | Explain an intended purpose and an actual result.

1. READ: Improving a small cafe

Read the conversation. Notice the bold grammar and how the speakers use it.

Mo: Why have you moved the tables?

Ada: **So that customers can move** around more easily. It was a squeeze before.

Mo: And the new sign outside?

Ada: We put it up **to attract** people walking past.

Mo: Has it helped?

Ada: Yes. We were **so busy that** we ran out of cake. It was **such a good day that** we stayed open late.

2. GRAMMAR: Intention versus consequence

Use to/in order to or so that for purpose; use so...that or such...that for a result.

Use / form	Pattern	Example
Purpose: same actor	to / in order to + verb	We put up a sign to attract people.
Purpose: clause	so that + subject + can/could	We moved tables so people can pass.
Result	so + adjective / such + noun + that	It was so busy that we ran out.

Negative purpose: I left early so as not to be late.

Different actor: I spoke slowly so that everyone could understand.

Purpose is an aim, not guaranteed success; result tells us what actually happened.

A. CHOOSE

Circle the correct option in each sentence.

1. I called to / for book a table.
2. We moved it so that / to people could pass.
3. It was so / such busy that we left.
4. It was so / such a good day that we stayed.
5. I left early so as not to / not for be late.
6. She spoke clearly so that we could understand / understanding.
7. He saved money in order to buy / buying it.
8. There were so many / such many people that we ran out.

Read each answer aloud. Explain which meaning or time clue helped you.

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Use it | Complete a context, write sentences and speak with a partner.

B. COMPLETE: Making changes at a cafe

Choose the linking expression or the appropriate form for purpose/result.

1. We put up a sign _____ (to / so that) attract new customers.
2. We moved the tables _____ (to / so that) people could pass.
3. It was _____ (so / such) busy that we ran out of cake.
4. It was _____ (so / such) a good day that we stayed open late.
5. We lowered the music so that people _____ (can) talk comfortably that evening.
6. I left early so as not _____ (be) late.

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1-2: Join to express purpose.

Example: I called. I wanted to book. **I called to book.**

1. I saved money. I wanted to travel.
2. I spoke slowly. I wanted Jo to follow.

3-4: Join to express a result with so/such...that. Example: It was very hot. We left. **It was so hot that we left.**

3. It was very noisy. We left.
4. It was a great day. We stayed longer.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU

Describe two actions and their purposes, then one actual result. Make the intention/result difference clear.

Example: **I booked early to save money. It was so popular that all the seats sold out.**

E. SPEAK WITH A PARTNER

Plan improvements to a cafe, club or classroom. Explain the purpose of each change.

Imagine a result and describe it with **so...that** or **such...that**.

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Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

1. READ: Improving a small cafe

Sample target language from the conversation:

Ada: So that customers can move around more easily. It was a squeeze before.

Ada: We put it up to attract people walking past.

Ada: Yes. We were so busy that we ran out of cake. It was such a good day that we stayed open late.

A. CHOOSE

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. to | 2. so that |
| 3. so | 4. such |
| 5. so as not to | 6. understand |
| 7. buy | 8. so many |

B. COMPLETE: Making changes at a cafe

- | | |
|----------|------------|
| 1. to | 2. so that |
| 3. so | 4. such |
| 5. could | 6. to be |

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1. I saved money to travel.
2. I spoke slowly so that Jo could follow.
3. It was so noisy that we left.
4. It was such a great day that we stayed longer.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU / E. SPEAK

Personal answers will vary. Check the target grammar.

Sample: We moved the chairs so that people could see. We opened early to prepare. It was so busy that we needed extra staff.

Teacher note: C1 also allows in order to travel; C2 allows in order for Jo to follow. With so that, use a full clause. A purpose is an aim, not proof that the aim was achieved.