

## Lecture 5: cause and consequence

*Axiomatically, science is concerned with questions of "Why?", "How?" and "What?" – in other words, with causes and consequences, with reasons and results. These functions can be expressed in a variety of ways, ranging from link words, to verbs and nouns. We have already seen some of these in a different context in Link Words Unit.*

### **Functions & Grammar**

#### **KEY POINTS – CAUSE & CONSEQUENCE**

##### **1. Adverbs and conjunctions**

###### ■ Cause

because of • owing to • due to • on account of • thanks to

➤ **Owing to** his bad health, the minister was forced to resign.

because • as • since

➤ **As** he was ill, the minister was forced to resign.

###### ■ Consequence

consequently • therefore • thus • hence • as a result • thereby<sup>G. Notes 11</sup>

➤ The minister was in bad health, **therefore** he was forced to resign.

➤ The minister resigned, **thereby putting** the government in difficulty.

##### **2. Verbs**

###### ■ Cause

to cause • result in •  
lead to • be responsible for •  
bring about • give rise to •  
trigger (off) • spark (off)<sup>G. Notes 17</sup>

➤ Illness **led to** the minister's resignation.

###### ■ Consequence

to come from • result from •  
arise from • stem from

➤ The minister's resignation **stemmed from** his bad health.

### 3. Nouns

#### ■ Cause

cause • reason • origin • source

➤ The real **cause** of his resignation was bad health.

#### ■ Consequence

- consequence • result • outcome • effect
- by-product • spin-off

➤ The final **outcome** of the illness was the minister's resignation.