

Life in the Great Depression

9. Conjunctions IV – so, so that, which caused, which led to, as a result,

The ‘consequently’ conjunctions ‘so’, ‘so that’, ‘which caused’, ‘which led’, ‘as a result’ are particularly valuable, because they are ‘explaining’ words – the core skill (to some degree or another) required by EVERY answer you will write.

“Prices fell, **so** people who remained in work were BETTER off.”

“People took out insurance against future hardship, **which caused** companies like MetLife to prosper.”

“People HAD to buy essentials such as household products; **as a result**, firms like Procter & Gamble thrived.”

1. Complete the following sentence stems:

- Rich folk could not cope with losing everything, so _____ [Source C]
- The widow eating garbage took off her glasses, so that _____ [Source D].
- Middle class people experienced poverty, which led to _____ [Source G].

- _____, so Black Americans lost their unskilled work to white unemployed.
- _____, which caused local councils to go bankrupt.
- _____, so that bankrupt farmers could keep their possessions.

Consider the following sentence, which uses ‘these ‘consequently’ conjunctions to connect a sequence of ideas:

“In the mid-west, the situation was worsened by over-farming, which caused a 'dust bowl' which led to the bankruptcy of thousands of farms; as a result the Depression was particularly fierce in agriculture.”

2. Develop similar sentences, using the ‘explaining’ subordinating conjunctions ‘so’, ‘so that’, ‘which caused’, ‘which led’, ‘as a result’:

- African-American Communist Ned Cobb led a sharecropper group trying to prevent the local sheriff seizing a man’s property; this led to _____, and as a result _____.
- _____ which led _____, as a result LA police set up the ‘bum blockade’ to turn them back.
- _____, so _____, which caused many caused many families to fall apart.

- _____, <conjunction> _____, <conjunction> _____.
- _____, <conjunction> _____, <conjunction> _____.
- _____, <conjunction> _____, <conjunction> _____.

NOTE!! In your notes and in your essay-planning, all these ‘consequently’ conjunctions can be represented by the character: →