HSK 4 Grammar 19: Cause & effect statements

HSK 4 由于, 既然 ... 就 ... and 因此, taught from the reviewed topic handout; classroom examples, not official exam items.

Three words, three jobs

由于 heads a formal cause; **既然** reasons forward from an accepted fact; **因此** rolls out the consequence.

- The tested choices are pairing and the fact line.
- **由于** leans to **因此**; **既然** is not a hypothetical.

由于: the formal “due to”

The notice register

由于天气原因，航班取消了。(Yóuyú tiānqì yuányīn, hángbān qǔxiāo le.) — Due to the weather, the flight was cancelled.

由于意见不一致，两位老板吵了起来。(Yóuyú yìjiàn bù yízhì, liǎng wèi lǎobǎn chǎo le qǐlái.) — Due to differing opinions, the two bosses started arguing.

既然 … 就 …: since

Reasoning from what we both know

既然你那么喜欢，那就买吧。(Jìrán nǐ nàme xǐhuan, nà jiù mǎi ba.) — Since you like it so much, just buy it.

既然大家都不感兴趣，就换个话题吧。(Jìrán dàjiā dōu bù gǎnxìngqù, jiù huàn ge huàtí ba.) — Since no one's interested, let's change the subject.

因此: therefore

1. **The meaning: because of THIS** 因 "because" + 此 "this" — it introduces the effect.
2. **Worked sentence one** 昨天下雨了，因此我没有出门。(Zuótiān xiàyǔ le, yīncǐ wǒ méiyǒu chūmén.) — It rained yesterday, so I didn't go out.
3. **Worked sentence two** 她在农村长大，因此很了解农民的生活。— She grew up in the countryside, so she understands rural life well.
4. **The order** The cause comes first; 因此 leads the result clause.

Decision

The formal cousin of 所以, pairing naturally with a 由于 / 因为 cause.

The chain, assembled

Slot	Words	Register
Head the cause	由于 / 因为	由于 formal, 因为 neutral
Reason from a known fact	既然 … 就 …	Spoken, suggestion-flavoured
Introduce the effect	因此 / 所以	因此 formal, 所以 neutral

Quick check

Your turn

由于 often pairs with which result word in writing?

A. 所以
B. 因此

Check yourself

Your turn

Does 既然 build on a fact or a supposition?

A. a supposition

B. a fact