

Cause/Effect Statements

Ref Hsk5 Grammar

之所以……，是因为……—stating the effect before the cause

之所以…是因为… states the **result first**, then explains it —”the reason (why) …is that ….” It flips the usual 因为…所以…to spotlight the outcome. The second half can also be 是为了 (purpose) or 是想 (intention).

Structure: 之所以 + Result , 是因为 / 是为了 / 是想 + Cause

{zh: 他 |tā|he / 之所以 |zhī suǒ yǐ|the reason why / 成功 |chéng gōng|succeeded / , 是因为 |shì yīn wèi|is because / 很 |hěn|very / 努力 |nǔ lì|hard-working / 。 }

The reason he succeeded is that he worked very hard.

{zh: 我 |wǒ|I / 之所以 |zhī suǒ yǐ|the reason / 告诉 |gào su|am telling / 你 |nǐ|you / , 是想 |shì xiǎng|is to / 让 |ràng|make / 你 |nǐ|you / 小心 |xiǎo xīn|careful / 。 }

The reason I'm telling you is to make you careful.

Remember: 之所以…是因为…= 因为…所以…run backwards —outcome up front (“the reason X…”), cause behind (“…is that Y”). Use it to put the *result* in the spotlight. Tail variants: 是为了 (purpose), 是想 (intention).

Watch out

- Keep the order: 之所以 + result, then 是因为 + cause —don't put the cause first.