

## WRITING DEVELOPMENT

In her book, *The Writing Revolution* Judith Hochman tells us that students' problems with reading comprehension, as well with writing essays, occur because they have not been taught systematically to write ... to which her book gives a step-by-step guide.

The Writing Development exercises here are adapted from her programme.

### Life in the Great Depression

#### 9. Subordinating conjunctions IV – so, so that, which caused, which led to, as a result,

The 'consequently' subordinating 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: →