PROFESORES DE ENSEÑANZA SECUNDARIA · INGLÉS · JUNTA DE EXTREMADURA

TEMA

# 25

# Relations of Cause, Consequence and Purpose

Relaciones de causa, consecuencia y finalidad.

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Material de elaboración propia a partir de las fuentes oficiales que se citan al final del tema. No es un temario oficial ni sustituye a la normativa publicada.

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

"Is there any cause in nature that make these hard hearts?" asks King Lear in the mock trial of Act 3, Scene 6. The question is a very human one. Faced with cruelty or surprise, we ask why something happened, what it will lead to and what anyone meant by it. Language has grown a whole set of resources to answer those three questions, and they are the subject of Topic 25: Relations of Cause, Consequence and Purpose. In order to address it, I will divide the topic into six sections. Firstly, I will examine cause and reason, from the conjunctions and prepositions that express them to the difference between the two notions. Secondly, I will analyse consequence, that is, result, through correlative structures, conjuncts and lexical means. Thirdly, I will study purpose. Fourthly, I will look at how these relations work beyond the sentence, in cohesion and discourse. Fifthly, I will compare English with Spanish and review the typical errors of Spanish-speaking learners. Finally, I will reflect on the pedagogical and didactic implications of this content within our current educational framework.

Before moving on, I would like to mention the sources consulted for the preparation of this topic. These include: Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik's A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language, Huddleston and Pullum's The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language, Halliday and Hasan's Cohesion in English, Carter, McCarthy, Mark and O'Keeffe's English Grammar Today, and Swan's Practical English Usage, as well as the online English Grammar Today on the Cambridge Dictionary website. I have also drawn on the LOMLOE (Organic Law 3/2020), Real Decreto 217/2022 and 243/2022, and Decreto 110/2022 and 109/2022 of the Autonomous Community of Extremadura.