



Adverbs of purpose & reason cheat sheet

1. The "why" at a glance. Adverbs of purpose and reason answer the question: "For what reason?" or "With what intent?"

| Adverb | Usage | Example |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Therefore | Logical conclusion | I was late; therefore , I missed the intro. |
| Hence | Direct result | The road is closed; hence , the delay. |
| Intentionally | Deliberate aim | She intentionally skipped the meeting. |
| Consequently | Following effect | He forgot his keys; consequently , he was locked out. |
| Thus | Explains the logical result | He studied hard; thus , he passed the exam. |

2. Punctuation power rules. Avoid common grammar mistakes by following these two "Golden Rules" for conjunctive adverbs:

- **Rule 1: The Semicolon Split:** When joining two complete thoughts, use a semicolon (;) before the adverb and a comma (,) after.
 - *Example:* "The cake was burnt; **therefore**, we ate ice cream."
- **Rule 2: The Sentence Starter:** When starting a new sentence with an adverb of reason, always follow it with a comma.
 - *Example:* "**Consequently**, the entire event was rescheduled."

3. Purpose vs. Reason: What's the difference? While they are closely related, they look at time differently:

- **Purpose (The Goal):** Focuses on the *future* outcome. (e.g., "to win," "so that," "purposely").
- **Reason (The Cause):** Focuses on the *past* event that triggered the action. (e.g., "because," "since," "consequently").

4. Pro-tip: Avoiding "adverb overload". In creative writing, don't use an adverb if the verb can do the work.

- **Instead of:** "He walked intentionally toward the door."
- **Try:** "He marched toward the door."