

Homework

8.2 Having an off day?

GRAMMAR Cause and result



Teambuilding workshop

Our small team of six don't work together as well as we could, a recent audit revealed. We were rather surprised; we thought we were good at collaborating. As part of the audit recommendations, we all took part in a facilitated workshop which included various team-building activities. The first session involved ¹ _____, which was to identify the strengths and weaknesses of our collaboration. The boss had a personal aim which was to participate and observe the team's iterative process in action while doing a task that had a clear outcome. Later we would identify some key issues that needed changing. Only time will tell whether the

² _____ will improve our overall collaboration and productivity. During the teambuilding workshop itself we worked inside and outside in various formations. Although some of the team, including myself, were initially quite sceptical, it built rapport and we enjoyed ³ _____ in a competitive task. We were very motivated to be the winning team! The ensuing feedback session proved to be very enlightening and has helped us tighten our processes. We'll work towards eliminating steps we agree are no longer necessary and communicating more closely. I would recommend taking part in this workshop – it enabled us to focus on our work as a team and it was enjoyable.

1 Complete the text with the phrases (a–c).

- a achieving short-term targets
- b setting a clear goal
- c successful completion of targets and goals

2 Rewrite these sentences about the team-building event using the cause and result phrases in brackets.

- 1 Our small team of six don't work together as well as we could, a recent audit revealed. (result in / revelation that)
A recent audit _____.
- 2 As part of the audit recommendations, we all took part in a facilitated workshop. (to be the consequence of)
Taking part in _____.

3 The boss participated and later proposed changes in some key areas. (lead to / proposals)
The boss's observations _____.

4 Although some of us were initially quite sceptical, the workshop built rapport. (foster)
Despite our _____.

5 The ensuing feedback session has helped us tighten our processes. (contribute to)
The feedback session _____.

6 We'll work towards communicating more closely. (bring about / communication)
The workshop will _____.

3 Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- 1 The team-building activity was *due to* / *brought about* a relaxed atmosphere and some fun.
- 2 The team with no manager won, which *caused* / *resulted from* some disappointment to management!
- 3 The tasks are *the result of* / *gave rise to* a useful context in which to assess collaboration.
- 4 An increased appreciation of everyone's contribution *stemmed from* / *brought about* the successful workshop.
- 5 Stronger rapport in the team *resulted in* / *resulted from* working and laughing together in the workshop.
- 6 A lack of communication *contributes to* / *arises from* some work tasks having to be done twice and others being neglected.
- 7 The facilitator *killed* / *fostered* better communication through debriefing and progress reporting.
- 8 Ultimately the workshop *resulted in* / *arose from* decisions to redefine working groups and optimize processes.

4 (Good presentation) ... he was promoted.

a _____
b _____

5 (Workshop a success) ... she held an extra one.

a _____
b _____

6 (Travelling rush hour time-consuming activity) ... the company started flexitime and home-working days to deal with it.

a _____
b _____

GRAMMAR EXTRA! *so / such ... that + clause*

4 So and such are intensifiers used in combination with that to indicate a result. Write two sentence beginnings (use so in a and such in b). Keep the meaning the same. You may have to change or add some words.

1 (Bad storm) ... the police and fire brigade were out dealing with fallen trees and flooding most of the night.

a *The storm was so bad that*
b *It was such a bad storm that*

2 (Cheap flights) ... the New York trip has become considerably more realistic.

a _____
b _____

3 (Large order) ... we'll have to employ some temporary staff to manage it.

a _____
b _____

7 (Serious setback caused by IT problems) ... they had to extend the project deadline by a week.

a _____
b _____

8 (Many complaints) ... they had to remove the product from the shelves.

a _____
b _____

9 (Very popular product) ... we had to increase orders.

a _____
b _____