She was driving fast when...

Time sequencers and connectors

Time sequencers

On our first date, we went to the movies. **After that**, we started meeting every day.
On Thursday I had an argument with my boss. **The next day** I decided to look for a new job.
We sat down to eat. **Two minutes later** the phone rang.
When I came out of the club, he was waiting for me.
The accident happened **when** I was crossing the street.

→ We use time sequencers to say when or in what order things happen.

→ We use **when** as a time sequencer and also to join two actions.
I was watching TV when the phone rang. (two verbs joined by when)

→ **Then, after that**
The most common way of linking consecutive actions is with then or after that, but NOT only with after:
I got up and got dressed. **Then/ After that** I made a cup of coffee.
NOT ~~After I made a cup of coffee.~~

Connectors

Because and so

She was driving fast **because** she was in a hurry. (reason)
She was in a hurry, **so** she was driving fast. (result)

→ Use **because** to express the reason why something happens.

→ Use **so** to express result.

But and although

She tried to stop the car, **but** she hit the man.
Although she tried to stop the car, she hit the man.
She was very tired, **but** she couldn't sleep.
She couldn't sleep, **although** she was very tired.

→ Use **but** and **although** to show contrast.

→ **Although** can go at the beginning or in the middle of a sentence.

LET'S PRACTICE!

A) Complete the sentences with *so, because, although* or *but*.

We couldn't find a taxi, so we walked home.

1. _____ it was very cold, she wasn't wearing a coat.
2. I woke up in the night _____ there was a noise.
3. I called him, _____ his cell phone was turned off.
4. _____ she's very nice, she doesn't have many friends.
5. There was nothing on TV, _____ I went to bed.
6. All the cafes were full _____ it was a holiday.
7. _____ the team played well, it didn't win.
8. She wanted to be a doctor, _____ she failed her exams.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

B) Put the sentences in the right order to tell the story. (grab and drop)

He told me he was a police officer and that they were looking for a thief.

Then another man tried to do the same.

The next day I read the story in a newspaper.

When the second man went in front of me, I told him to go and stand in line.

A few seconds later, the first police officer got off the bus with a man.

Suddenly a man ran in front of me and got on the bus.

After that, a police car came and took the men away.

1 One day in 2011 I was standing in line for a bus.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

LIVEWORKSHEETS