

Answer to Question # 15: Answers 1, 2 & 4 are correct.

In Japanese, **ので** (NODE) is one way to say “since” or “because.” Japanese people tend to use **ので** (node) when they want to convey a reason more objectively and not just to present their personal opinions or judgments.

In this case, **ので** (node) is acceptable, and therefore **ANSWER # 1 IS CORRECT**.

から (KARA) is another way to say “since” or “because.” In addition, **から** (kara) can mean “from” or “after.”

から (kara) is often used to express your personal opinion about the reason for a situation. **から** (kara), rather than **ので** (node), should be used after **だろう** (darou) = “it probably is” or after **でしょう** (deshou) = “it probably is.” It’s also better to use **から** (kara), rather than **ので** (node), before suggestions, commands, requests and invitations.

For example, this sentence is **CORRECT**: **雨が降るだろうから傘を持って行きます** (ame ga furu darou kara, kasa wo motte ikimasu) = “because it will probably rain, I will take an umbrella.”

However, the following sentence is **NOT CORRECT**: **雨が降るだろうので傘を持って行きます** (ame ga furu darou node, kasa wo motte ikimasu), since you may **NOT** use **ので** (node) after **だろう** (darou).

In the situation posed by Question # 15, **から** (kara) is perfectly acceptable, and therefore **ANSWER # 2 IS ALSO CORRECT**.

A **THIRD WAY** to say “since” or “because” is to use **で** (DE) after a **NA ADJECTIVE**. For example, **寿司が好きでよく食べます** (sushi ga suki de yoku tabemasu) = “because I like sushi, I eat it often.”

You may also use **で** (DE) after a **NOUN**, to convey the meaning “because.” For example, **病気で学校を休みました** (byouki de gakkou wo yasumimashita) = “because sick, I missed school.”

When you want to use **で** (DE) to mean “because” after an **I ADJECTIVE**, convert the i adjective to its “kute” form. For example, using the i adjective **多い** (ooi) = “numerous,” you could say **車が多くてうるさいんです** (kuruma ga ookute urusain desu) = “because cars are numerous, it’s noisy.”

Finally, if you want use **で** (DE) to mean “because” after a **VERB**, convert the verb to its “te” or “de” form. For example, **電車が込んで大変です** (densha ga konde taihen desu) = “because the train gets crowded, it’s terrible.”

Therefore, ANSWER # 3 IS INCORRECT, since it fails to convert the verb 飲みすぎる (nomisugiru) = “drink too much” to its “te” form.

By the same token, ANSWER # 4 IS ALSO CORRECT, since it DOES convert the verb 飲みすぎる (nomisugiru) to its “te” form.

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Question # 15: “Because”

You want to say, “Because I drank too much, the head hurts.”
Which of the following 4 Japanese sentences is correct?

1. 飲みすぎたので頭が痛い (nomisugita node atama ga itai).
2. 飲みすぎたから頭が痛い (nomisugita kara atama ga itai).
3. 飲みすぎたで頭が痛い (nomisugita de atama ga itai).
4. 飲みすぎて頭が痛い (nomisugite atama ga itai).