WITH

meaning because of

WITH

We use with to mean 'because of' or 'as a result of'. This is especially common in speaking:

- With all this work, I'd better stay in tonight.

- With all this uncertainty about jobs, it's difficult to make plans.

- His fingers were numb with cold.

- I couldn't sleep with the noise of the traffic.

- With exams approaching, it's a good idea to review your class notes.

WHAT WITH something - C2

used to talk about the reasons for a particular situation, especially a bad or difficult situation:

- She couldn't get to sleep, what with all the shooting and shouting.

- I'm very tired, what with travelling all day yesterday and having a disturbed night.

- What with the cold weather and my bad leg, I haven't been out for weeks.