

Jazyková kompetence I Session IV

Essay Writing: The Basics II

Main body

1. Cohesion

Cohesive language includes the words or phrases used to connect written ideas or information together to form a text. Authors first introduce an idea or subject, and then add more information about it. This means they need to refer to the idea again, using reference words like *this work*, *their* or *it*.

Look at the text and decide exactly which part each word/ phrase in bold refers to.

In the nineteenth and twentieth centuries the essential argument of heredity versus environment emerged. **These terms** are often known as 'nature' and 'nurture' **respectively**. Essentially the arguments are concerned with the extent to which intelligence is inherited through the genes a person is born with (heredity, or nature), or formed through a person's life and **their** surroundings (environment, or nurture).

Complete the paragraph using the words/ phrases below. There are two words you do not need.

it respectively that (2) the these these terms these theories this who

Intelligence is a concept has interested thinkers for many hundreds of years. has been seen as either mainly hereditary or environmental. refer to 'nature' and 'nurture' Based on two perspectives, differing theories emerged. remain controversial to this day. The idea intelligence is genetically determined has been strongly criticised, while assumption that intelligence can be accurately measured by IQ tests is also widely disputed.

2. Transitions

Task A) What are these transitions used for?

- a) therefore, thus, consequently, as a consequence, as a result
- b) in addition, also, finally, moreover, furthermore
- c) however, on the other hand, whereas, while, yet, but, despite, in spite of, although, nevertheless
- d) first, second, next / firstly, secondly, thirdly, finally / initially, subsequently, ultimately
- e) in this case, for example, for instance, to illustrate, to demonstrate
- f) in brief, in conclusion, finally, in summary, to sum up, that is to say, all in all, as a result, in short

- 1. To introduce an opposite idea or show exception
- 2. To introduce an example
- 3. To indicate a result / cause of something
- 4. To logically divide an idea
- 5. To summarise and conclude
- 6. To introduce an additional idea

(<http://academichelp.net/general-writing-tips/essentials/common-transitions.html>)

Task B) Choose suitable transitions for the following sentences:

- a) Knowledge can be acquired from books, *despite / whereas / also* skills must be learned through practice.
- b) It's a difficult race. *Despite / On the other hand / Nevertheless*, about a thousand runners participate every year.
- c) Doctors are short of time to listen and *although / while/ consequently* tend to prescribe drugs whenever they can.
- d) This is one possible solution to the problem. *Despite / However, / For instance*, there are others.
- e) We were unable to get the funding and *therefore/ nevertheless/ however* had to abandon the project.
- f) Many people are successful in their jobs *despite / however/ although* the fact that they have no university diploma.

Task C) Complete the gaps with the expressions from below:

*also because consequently for this reason generally speaking however
indeed on the other hand particularly such as therefore while*

Obesity is a condition in which the amount of body fat exceeds the biological need of an individual. Obesity is a manifestation of a positive energy balance that has been sustained over an extended period of time. (1), the reason why this condition has spread inexorably across the globe over the past 3 decades with such speed is not well understood. (2), the human genome has not changed substantially during this time; (3), the rise in obesity most likely reflects changes in the environment and/or behaviour. During the past half-century mechanization has impinged upon our modes of living in diverse ways. (4), energy expenditure required for daily living has continuously declined. A recent study showed that in the US, daily energy expenditure due to work related PA has decreased by more than 100 kcal during last 50 years in both men and women, and this reduction is associated with the increase in mean body weight during this time frame. Similar trends have also been observed in other countries including Finland, where daily energy expenditure during work reportedly decreased by more than 50 kcal between 1982 and 1992 (5) the average body weight relentlessly crept upward. More recent studies indicated that these trends have continued unabated up to the present day. Substantial reductions in daily energy expenditure have also occurred in developing countries such as China and Brazil, which have the highest absolute and relative rates of decline in total PA due to reductions in movement at work. (6) , it is believed that the obesity epidemic has also penetrated the low-income countries, (7) in the urban areas, and will continue to spread for the foreseeable future.

There is (8) reason to assume that domestic mechanization of daily tasks (with the advent of labour-saving devices such as washing machines and dishwashers) have reduced energy expenditure over the years. (9), it was recently estimated that in women, daily housework-related energy expenditure has decreased by 360 kcal in the US since the 1960s. The authors of the study concluded that such reductions in housework-related energy expenditure might have been substantial contributors to the rise in prevalence of obesity in women in last 5 decades. (10) such labour-saving devices are habitually used in all affluent societies, their contribution to population energy balance in high-income countries has been considered substantive. Domestic mechanization has also contributed to increased sedentariness, as time spent in house work has been replaced by sedentary activities (11) watching television and use of other screen based media.¹⁶ Many studies have implicated sedentary behaviour, including passive transportation, with weight gain.^{17, 18, 19} (12), participation in leisure-time physical activity (LTPA) has progressively increased over the years;²⁰ however, it appears that on a secular basis, this has not been enough to offset increased sedentary behaviour, as total PA is declining rapidly across the globe.

(<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2095254616300060>)

3. Being formal

Academic language should always be clear and logical, but it should also conform to its own genre or style. Academic English, particularly when written, is usually described as 'formal' language. The formality of academic writing is characterised by the following:

- a) **An impersonal** rather than a personal **style**, including the use of structures that begin with *it* and *there*, rather than personal pronouns *I*, *we* and *you*.

Complete each sentence with *it* or *there*.

1. has been argued by educationalists that a greater number of male teachers at primary school level might improve the performance of young boys in the classroom.
 2. was some evidence in the survey that British people still feel closer links with the USA than with their fellow citizens in the EU.
 3. needs to be a proper exploration of the causes of the riots.
 4. may be preferable for the newspaper industry to regulate itself.
- b) A tendency to base structures around **nouns** rather than verbs (**nominalisation**).
Example: If countries continue to **burn** the forests, they are likely to **destroy** much of the local flora and fauna. → The continued **burning** of the forests will lead to the **destruction** of the local flora and fauna.

Transform the sentences using nominalisation.

1. The presenter questioned whether some of the research was *relevant*. →
The of the research was questioned by the presenter.
 2. The country's infrastructure has been *improving* over the last two years. →
There has been an in the country's infrastructure over the last two years.
 3. The performance of men and women was very *similar* in this respect. →
There are numerous in the performance of men and women in this respect.
- c) The use of **formal vocabulary**

Match each phrase with one of the more formal words below.

distribute *advisable* *occupation* *deteriorate* *unacceptable*
negotiations *in addition* *therefore* *further* *due to* *submit*
resign

also give out hand in job quit get worse so
wrong/ very bad talks a good idea more because of

Conclusion

1. Read the features of a conclusion below. Not all of them appear in the conclusion of all essays.

- A reference to research
- Summary and reference to the title
- A statement of limitations
- Recommendations for the future
- A reference to findings

Identify these features in the conclusion below.

The discussion has shown that social and emotional , including intrapersonal, intelligence have a crucial part in the medical environment. We have considered the role of research, but it has not been possible to cover all of the latest research. What is clear, however, is that the three types of intelligence can improve job-seekers' chances in the job market. Training in these types of intelligence should be offered not just on medical courses, but even as early as secondary school with greater allocation of educational investment.