

# LINKING WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS

I. Complete the table with examples of linking words and expressions.

MEANING	LINKING EXPRESSIONS FOR BOTH INFORMAL AND FORMAL USE	LINKING EXPRESSIONS FOR (VERY) FORMAL USE
ADDITION	and, not only... but also, both...and	additionally, what is more, furthermore, moreover, besides, ...
CAUSE-EFFECT / REASON	because, so	owing to the fact that, due to the fact that, on the grounds that, since, as, for this reason, thus, therefore, consequently, as a result, as a consequence
CONDITION	if	on the condition that, provided, providing, as long as, in the event of, in case
CONTRAST / OPPOSITION	but, while	yet, however, nevertheless, still, nonetheless, although, in spite of, despite, whereas
EXAMPLE	for example, like	for instance, such as, in particular
SUMMARY – CONCLUSION	finally, lastly	all in all, taking everything into consideration, on the whole, in conclusion, on balance, to sum up
TIME	when, before, after, till, until	since, as, in the meantime, simultaneously, subsequently

II. Decide which type of linking expressions the following sentences belong to.

1. **Moreover**, travel information is very important for route planning. ADDITION
2. We suspect they are trying to hide something, **hence** the need for an independent inquiry. CAUSE-EFFECT/REASON
3. He **subsequently** became the chairman of the party. TIME
4. Estimates suggest that the effects will continue, **but** at a more moderate rate. CONTRAST/OPPOSITION
5. There is a serious problem in the district, **namely** unemployment. EXAMPLE
6. This poses a threat to agriculture and the food chain, and **consequently** to human health. CAUSE-EFFECT/REASON

7. **Both** the husband **and** the wife were similarly successful in their chosen careers. ADDITION
8. Some of the studies show positive results, **whereas** others do not. CONTRAST/OPPOSITION
9. The results are important for scientific research **in general** and geography **in particular**.

EXAMPLE

10. There is little chance that we will succeed in changing the law. **Nevertheless**, it is important that we try. CONTRAST/OPPOSITION
11. **Unless** I'm mistaken, she was back at work yesterday. CONDITION

*III. Join together the following sentences.*

1. She wasn't very rich. She gave money to the beggar. (**although**)  
=> **Although she wasn't very rich, she gave money to the beggar.**
2. He left early. He wanted to arrive on time. (**so that**)  
=> **He left early so that he would arrive on time.**
3. You can go out tonight. You must tell us where you are going. (**provided**)  
=> **You can go out tonight provided you tell us where you are going.**
4. I don't earn a big salary. But if I did, I wouldn't buy a car. (**even if**)  
=> **Even if I earned a big salary I wouldn't buy a car.**
5. Take a sandwich. There might be no restaurant. (**in case**)  
=> **Take a sandwich in case there's no restaurant.**
6. There was a lot of noise. He managed to sleep. (**despite**)  
=> **Despite the noise, he managed to sleep.**
7. Sue likes Opera. Joe prefers jazz. (**whereas**)  
=> **Sue likes Opera whereas Joe prefers Jazz.**
8. The weather was bad. They enjoyed the trip. (**even though**)  
=> **Even though the weather was bad they enjoyed the trip.**
9. He had the 'flu. He went to work. (**in spite of**)  
=> **In spite of having the 'flu he went to work.**
10. You have to put the alarm on. If not, it won't work. (**unless**)  
=> **Unless you put the alarm on it won't work.**

IV. Test what you have learnt. Select a suitable conjunction in each sentence.

1. Polls show that Tony Blair is the most popular Prime Minister this century. **However**, there are even members of his own party who are uneasy with his approach.

**However** indicates that what follows is something of a contradiction or an exception.

2. There are some slight variations in temperature, but **as a rule** 26 to 27°C should be expected.

**As a rule** shows you are about to make a generalisation.

3. The two main Channel Islands, **namely** Jersey and Guernsey, are much closer to France than to England.

You are actually naming the two islands mentioned, so **namely** is used.

4. It was announced that nurses' working hours would be increased by 25%. **As a result**, even fewer trainee nurses are expected to join the profession.

The second sentence is a result or consequence of the first. *So that* must be followed by a verb.

5. Sales of CDs have experienced a small but steady fall over the past 12 months. **In contrast**, vinyl records have seen an increase in their share of the market, up to 1.7%.

The second sentence contrasts vinyl with CDs.

6. The Vice Chancellor explained that in light of the current financial climate and because of unexpected bad debts, it would be necessary to peg salary levels at their current level for all grades of staff. **In other words**, no-one was getting a pay rise.

The second sentence says the same as the first, but in a much simpler way (reformulation).

7. It is clear, therefore, that the situation in Brazil will improve only slowly. **With reference to** the economic problems being experienced in Japan, the outlook is slightly more optimistic.

The second sentence deals with a new aspect/point.

8. In order to try to reduce car use in the inner cities, the government has announced new restrictions on company parking spaces and **in addition**, a new tax on individual car use.

Reinforcement of the idea; an extra point. *As well as* must be immediately followed by a noun or verb.

9. Essays must be handed in by the deadline, **otherwise** they will not be marked.

The second part is a consequence of the first.

10. **Even though** it has been shown that fractures can occur at even relatively low pressures, the use of the material should not be completely discounted.

The idea of concession again; the second part is somewhat unexpected.