

Linking and Joining Words

Linking and joining words help your reader to move between and understand the connections you are making when writing.

BELOW are some examples of words that, if used effectively, will provide a transition from one point to another and add coherence when expressing complex ideas.

Linking words – usually placed at the beginning of paragraphs and sentences.

Add Information

again	additionally	along with	besides	in the same way
likewise	also	moreover	as well as	not only ... but also
another	furthermore	further	together with	equally important
in addition	what is more	for example		

Conclude or Summarise

in short	consequently	accordingly	finally	in conclusion
due to	to sum up	in summary	all in all	for this/that reason
as a result	therefore	hence	thus	

Emphasise a point

in particular	truly	for this reason	indeed	particularly
again	to repeat	to emphasise	in fact	with this in mind
especially	mainly	specifically		

Clarify

that is	put another way	in view that	stated differently
in other words	to clarify	to put it more simply	

Reason

in view of	due to	given that	as a result of
seeing as	since	on account of	

Show similarities

as	likewise	both	similarly	in the same way
like	also	equally	correspondingly	in the same manner

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Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg. This document is available in Welsh.

Contrast two things or show a difference

however	whilst	as opposed to	otherwise	in the meantime
alternatively	even so	even though/if	counter to	on the contrary
nevertheless	conversely	although	still	another possibility
in spite of	despite	apart from	while	on the other hand
rather	much as			

Moving to a new point

next	as for	with regard to	with reference to
turning to	given that	it follows that	as far as X is concerned

To show time

at	prior to	before	by the time	meanwhile
after	finally	while	whenever	immediately
about	until	during	as soon as	at which point
soon	since	then	as long as	in the meantime
later	next	afterward	whereupon	subsequently

Sequencing

First/firstly	second/secondly	third	finally	in conclusion
once/twice	to begin	today	tomorrow	to conclude

Joining words (Conjunctions) – used to join two parts of a sentence.

When joining two parts of a sentence that make sense on their own, coordinating conjunctions are used:

*The company was growing, **and** the company employed many people from the local area.*

Coordinating Conjunctions

and	but	yet	so	or	nor	for
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When writing a sentence which has one part that is dependent on the other, use subordinating conjunctions:

*The company was growing **although** its products were expensive.*

Subordinating Conjunctions

although	since	because	unless
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References and further reading:

Adapted from: Luke, L. (2000) *Transitional and linking words used in multiple paragraph essays*. Somers Central School District. Available at:
http://www.somers.k12.ny.us/sis/main/writing/transitional_words.html (Accessed: 14 October 2011).