

Teacher's Notes: Linking words

Time: Approx 1 hour.

Level: ****^[B1/B2/C1]

Lesson Plan

Aim: to develop the students' ability to understand key linking devices and formal connectors.

1. Lead in

- Ask students to discuss what they understand are formal linking devices. (sometimes called cohesive devices / connectors / conjunctions).
- Put up 'and' and 'but' on the board. Ask the students to think of formal words to these connectors.
- **Possible Answers:**
- 'And' = In addition, furthermore, moreover.
- 'But' = However, in contrast, nevertheless, whereas.

2. Matching activity

- **Preparation:** cut up one set of words ([Cut Up Activity^{#1}](#)) for groups of 4-6.
- Explain that they are going to look at **nine types** of formal linking word groups.
- 1) put out the 9 topics on a table.
- 2) shuffle the words and put the words in a pile face down.
- 3) take a word and discuss in the group which topic it should go under.
- 4) check the words to the [Formal Linking Reference Sheet^{#2}](#) sheet.
- 5) repeat the activity again.

IMPORTANT: give each student a copy of [Formal Linking Reference Sheet^{#2}](#) and also enlarge it to go on the classroom wall.

3. Worksheet / consolidation

- Give out [Linking Connectors Activity^{#3}](#) sheet. Students work through the sheet deciding which is the correct connector and why?
- Compare answers with a partner.
- Feedback as a whole group or give out the **answers^{#4}**.

Matching activity (Cut Up activity #1)

Addition,	Contrast
In addition,	However,
Additionally,	Nevertheless
Furthermore,	In contrast (to)
Moreover,	Whereas
Comparison	Example
Similarly,	For instance,
Similar to...	To illustrate,
In comparison with	To exemplify,
Compared to / with	That is (i.e.)
Result	Sequence
As a result,	Firstly, secondly,
Consequently,	Next, last, finally
Therefore,	Subsequently,
Thus	The latter / the former
Emphasis	Reason
Undoubtedly,	Owing to
Particularly,	Due to the fact that...
Clearly	Because (of)
Importantly	Since
Conclusion	
In summary,	
In conclusion,	
Overall,	
To sum up,	

Formal Linking Reference Sheet ^{#2}

Addition,	Contrast
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition / additionally / an additional • Furthermore... • Moreover... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • However • Nevertheless • Nonetheless • Although / even though / Though • Despite / in spite of • In contrast (to) • Whereas
Comparison	Example
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similarly / similar to • In comparison with • Compared to / with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example • For instance • To illustrate • To exemplify • That is (i.e.) • Such as
Result	Sequence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a result • As a consequence (of) / Consequently • Therefore • Thus • Hence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First / firstly, second / secondly, third / thirdly etc • Next, last, finally • Subsequently, • The latter and the former,
Emphasis	Reason
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undoubtedly • Generally • In fact • Particularly / in particular • Clearly • Importantly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owing to • Due to the fact that • Because (of) • Since • As
Conclusion	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In summary, To summarise • In conclusion / to conclude • Overall, • To sum up, 	

Linking Connectors Activity^{#3}

1. The car was recalled **because of / resulting in** a design fault.
2. The factory was forced to close **as a result of / therefore** the sales rapidly declining.
3. The fire started at the weekend. **Owing to / Since** the office was empty, no one was hurt.
4. **Consequently / owing to** the recession, most retailers have recorded a sharp fall in profits.
5. **Despite / whereas** the evidence being presented by experts, some people still do not agree with the decision.
6. Several economists have recommended a cut in interest rates, **however / due to the fact that** this may cause inflation.
7. **While / however** children incur medical costs to the state, the care of the elderly is much higher.
8. Spanish adult English learners often have to fit classes around their work. **In addition, Nevertheless,** they have to pay for the full costs of their courses.
9. Peterson's sell antique furniture **as well as / in contrast to** selling rare books.
10. **Also / in addition to** the university having a sports centre, there is a fully equipped gym.
11. A recent article has suggested that one procedure to cut the deficit is for the president to reduce the federal budget; _____, claiming that federal, state, and local taxes should be lowered. (**however, in contrast, furthermore**)
12. Another article has claimed that the causes of inflation were identifiable. _____ energy prices have risen by 20% over last 6 months. (**however, for example, therefore**)
13. Rising wages are possibly one of the primary causes of inflation; _____ more evidence is needed to support this claim. (**however; therefore, for example**)
14. In physics, the weight of an object is the gravitational force³ with which the Earth attracts it; _____, if a man weighs 150 pounds, this means that Earth pulls him down with a force of 150 pounds. (**moreover, therefore, for example**)
15. There were a large number of people who opposed Heathrow's expansion plans, who were _____ ignored in the final consultation. (**in conclusion, for example, nevertheless**)

Linking Connectors ANSWERS^{#4}

1. The car was recalled **because of** / **resulting in** a design fault.
2. The factory was forced to close **as a result of** / **therefore** the sales rapidly declining.
3. The fire started at the weekend. **Owing to** / **Since** the office was empty, no one was hurt.
4. **Consequently** / **Owing to** the recession, most retailers have recorded a sharp fall in profits.
5. **Despite** / **whereas** the evidence being presented by experts, some people still do not agree with the decision.
6. Several economists have recommended a cut in interest rates, **however** / **due to the fact that** this may cause inflation.
7. **While** / **however**, children incur medical costs to the state, the care of the elderly is much higher.
8. Spanish adult English learners often have to fit classes around their work. **In addition**, **Nevertheless**, they have to pay for the full costs of their courses.
9. Peterson's sell antique furniture **in contrast to** / **as well as** selling rare books.
10. **Also** / **in addition to** the university having a sports centre, there is a fully equipped gym.
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