

ACADEMIC CONNECTORS

Vocabulary – AWL

Linking words (connectors) are essential for academic writing and your international English exams. To achieve a B2 or B1 level you must correctly use a variety of linking devices in your writing (range, accuracy, flexibility). Also bad spelling will negatively affect your grade.

This word list below will help. More can be found at <http://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/>

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Listing, ordering, & time</p> <p>Firstly Secondly Thirdly Fourthly Lastly/ last but not least/ Finally/ eventually</p> <p>Meanwhile Initially Henceforth As long as/ as soon as</p> | <p>Adding Information</p> <p>In addition Additionally Furthermore Moreover Also Not only.... but also As well as...</p> | <p>Giving example</p> <p>For example One clear example is For instance Such as Namely To illustrate In other words</p> |
| <p>Results & consequences</p> <p>As a result Consequently Therefore Thus Hence So for this reason</p> | <p>Highlighting & stressing</p> <p>Particularly /in particular Specifically Especially Obviously Of course Clearly</p> | <p>Concessions & contrasts</p> <p>Admittedly However Nevertheless Even though Although Despite In spite of Still</p> |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| | | On the other hand By contrast In comparison Alternatively Another option could be |
| Reasons & causes Because Owing to Due to Since as | Giving your opinion In my opinion I think I believe I admit In my view I concur/ I agree I disagree/ I cannot accept | Concluding linkers In conclusion To conclude To sum up/ to summarise To reiterate |

Connectors that explain

1) Addition

- Furthermore,
- Moreover,
- In addition,

We use these to add extra information.

2) Linking Contrasting Ideas

- **While** E.g. **While** my girlfriend only likes chicken, I like all types of meat.
- **Whereas** E.g. I like all types of meat, **whereas** my girlfriend only like chicken.

We use while and whereas to link two ideas that contrast with each other in the same sentence.

- **However** E.g. Money can't buy happiness. **However**, it certainly makes life more comfortable.

We use however to link together two contrasting sentences.

3) Contrast

- **Although, Even though.** *Followed by a subject and a verb,* E.g. **Although** the hotel wasn't very nice, the holiday was great.

- **Despite.** *Followed by a Gerund.* E.g. **Despite** having all the necessary qualifications, they didn't offer me the job.
- **In spite of.** Followed by a noun. E.g. We enjoyed our camping holiday **in spite of** the rain.

In spite of, despite and although are all used to show a contrast but there are differences in the structures used with them.

4) Introduce reasons or examples.

- **For instance** — used to begin new sentences
- **For example** -used to begin new sentences
- **Such as** - used in the middle of a sentence without any commas

5) Cause and effect.

- **Because.** *Effect first.* E.g. I got a bad grade **because** I forgot to do my homework.
- **Since.** *Effect first.* E.g. I got a bad grade **since** I forgot to do my homework.
- **As a result.** *Cause first.* E.g. I forgot to do my homework and **as a result** I got a bad grade.
- **Therefore.** *Cause first.* E.g. I forgot to do my homework and **therefore** I got a bad grade.