Starters and Connectors

1. What Are Starters?

Starters are words or phrases used at the **beginning of sentences** to add flow, contrast, sequence, reason, condition, result, etc.

They help to:

- **Connect ideas**
- **Organize points**
- Improve **coherence and cohesion**

Examples:

- To begin with…
- Firstly, Secondly…
- In addition…
- On the other hand…

2. What Are Connectors?

Connectors (also called **linkers / conjunctions / transitional words**) join clauses, sentences, or ideas.

They show relationships like:

- **Addition**
- **Contrast**
- **Cause & effect**
- **Condition**
- **Time**
- **Comparison**
- **Purpose**
- **Result**

3. Types of Starters & Connectors

A. Additive Connectors

Examples:

- *He is smart. **Moreover**, he works hard.*
- *Not only is she talented, **but also** hardworking.*

B. Contrast Connectors

Examples:

- *He studied hard, **but** he failed.*
- *She is rich; **however**, she is unhappy.*

C. Cause & Effect ConnectorsExamples:

- *He was late **because** his car broke down.*
- *It rained; **therefore**, the match was cancelled.*

D. Condition Connectors

Examples:

- *I will go **if** it doesn't rain.*
- *Bring an umbrella **in case** it rains.*

E. Time Connectors

Examples:

- *Call me **before** you leave.*
- *He was sleeping **when** I arrived.*

F. Purpose Connectors

Examples:

- *He practices daily **so that** he can improve.*
- *I came early **to** help you.*

G. Comparison Connectors

Examples:

- *She sings **like** a professional.*
- *He is **as** tall **as** his brother.*

4. Starters for Paragraph Writing

These help **start sentences or paragraphs** logically:

Sequence

- Firstly, Secondly, Thirdly
- Next
- Finally

Adding points

- Additionally
- Moreover
- In addition

Emphasis

- Indeed
- Most importantly

Conclusion

- In conclusion
- To sum up
- All in all

5. Practice Notes & Tips

Rule 1: Match Connector with Meaning

Pick the correct connector that shows the relationship logically.

Rule 2: Check Tense and Context

- If cause → effect → use **because / therefore**
- If contrast → use **however / but**
- For purpose → use **so that / in order to**

Rule 3: Avoid Redundancy

Don't use two connectors with the same meaning:
Because since → wrong
Because → correct

Rule 4: Punctuation

Connector at start often followed by a comma:

- **However**, she agreed.
- **In addition**, he offered help.

6. Example Fill-in-the-Blanks

1. He didn't study; _____, he failed.
   Answer: **therefore**
2. You won't pass _____ you study hard.
   Answer: **unless**
3. She is kind; _____, she is generous.
   Answer: **moreover**
4. I waited _____ he came.
   Answer: **until**
5. He practices daily _____ he wants to improve.
   Answer: **because**

STARTERS & CONNECTORS – PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Directions (Q.1–30):

Choose the most appropriate starter or connector to complete each sentence.

Q1.

He worked very hard; _____, he could not clear the exam.
A. therefore
B. moreover
C. however
D. because

Q2.

_____ she was unwell, she attended the meeting.
A. Because
B. Although
C. Since
D. Unless

Q3.

You will not succeed _____ you work consistently.
A. if
B. until
C. unless
D. because

Q4.

The road was flooded; _____, the match was postponed.
A. however
B. otherwise
C. therefore
D. nevertheless

Q5.

_____ the rain, the event continued as scheduled.
A. Because of
B. Due to
C. In spite of
D. Since

Q6.

He is intelligent; _____, he lacks discipline.
A. moreover
B. therefore

C. however
D. hence

Q7.

_____ you submit the form today, your application will be rejected.
A. If
B. Until
C. Unless
D. Provided

Q8.

She spoke softly _____ no one could hear her.
A. so
B. so that
C. because
D. although

Q9.

_____ finishing his work, he left the office.
A. While
B. Before
C. After
D. During

Q10.

He failed the test _____ he did not prepare well.
A. therefore
B. although
C. because
D. however

Q11.

_____ the train was late, we reached on time.
A. Since
B. Because
C. Although
D. Unless

Q12.

She is not only talented _____ also very hardworking.
A. and
B. but
C. so
D. yet

Q13.

_____ the instructions carefully before starting the exam.
A. Moreover
B. Therefore
C. Read
D. However

Q14.

I carried an umbrella _____ it might rain.
A. because
B. so
C. in case
D. unless

Q15.

_____ speaking, he is the best candidate for the role.
A. Frankly
B. However

C. Therefore
D. Since

Q16.

He did not apologize; _____, the matter worsened.
A. however
B. therefore
C. although
D. unless

Q17.

_____ you agree, the plan cannot be executed.
A. If
B. Unless
C. Provided
D. Since

Q18.

She worked hard _____ she could support her family.
A. because
B. so that
C. although
D. unless

Q19.

_____ the warning, he repeated the mistake.
A. In case of
B. Because of
C. In spite of
D. Due to

Q20.

_____ all the evidence, the accused was acquitted.
A. However
B. Despite
C. Since
D. Because

Q21.

He was tired; _____, he continued working.
A. therefore
B. because
C. nevertheless
D. hence

Q22.

_____ the meeting ends, we will discuss the issue.
A. While
B. Until
C. After
D. Before

Q23.

She didn't call me; _____, I was worried.
A. although
B. therefore
C. however
D. unless

Q24.

_____ being inexperienced, he performed well.
A. Because
B. Since

C. Despite
D. If

Q25.

He must work harder _____ he wants to succeed.
A. although
B. unless
C. if
D. until

Q26.

_____ the heavy traffic, we arrived late.
A. Because
B. Due to
C. Although
D. However

Q27.

She waited _____ he returned.
A. until
B. before
C. since
D. unless

Q28.

_____ addition to English, he knows French.
A. In
B. On
C. At
D. For

Q29.

He spoke politely; _____, everyone respected him.
A. however
B. although
C. therefore
D. unless

Q30.

_____ concluding, I would like to thank everyone.
A. In
B. Before
C. While
D. After