



Expressions to Connect Ideas

English for Startup Incubator
cakap.com



Learning Objectives

After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Use linking words given in this lesson to add ideas together, contrast ideas, show the reason for something,
- Express their ideas in professional setting clearly.

Warm Up

Read the instruction below.

Take a look at the following sentences.
How would you combine them and make the relationship between ideas clearer?



- Infrastructure is poor in Thailand.
- There aren't enough skilled workers.
- Intel has opened a plant in Bangkok.



Warm Up

Suggested answer



- Infrastructure is poor in Thailand.
- There aren't enough skilled workers.
- Intel has opened a plant in Bangkok.

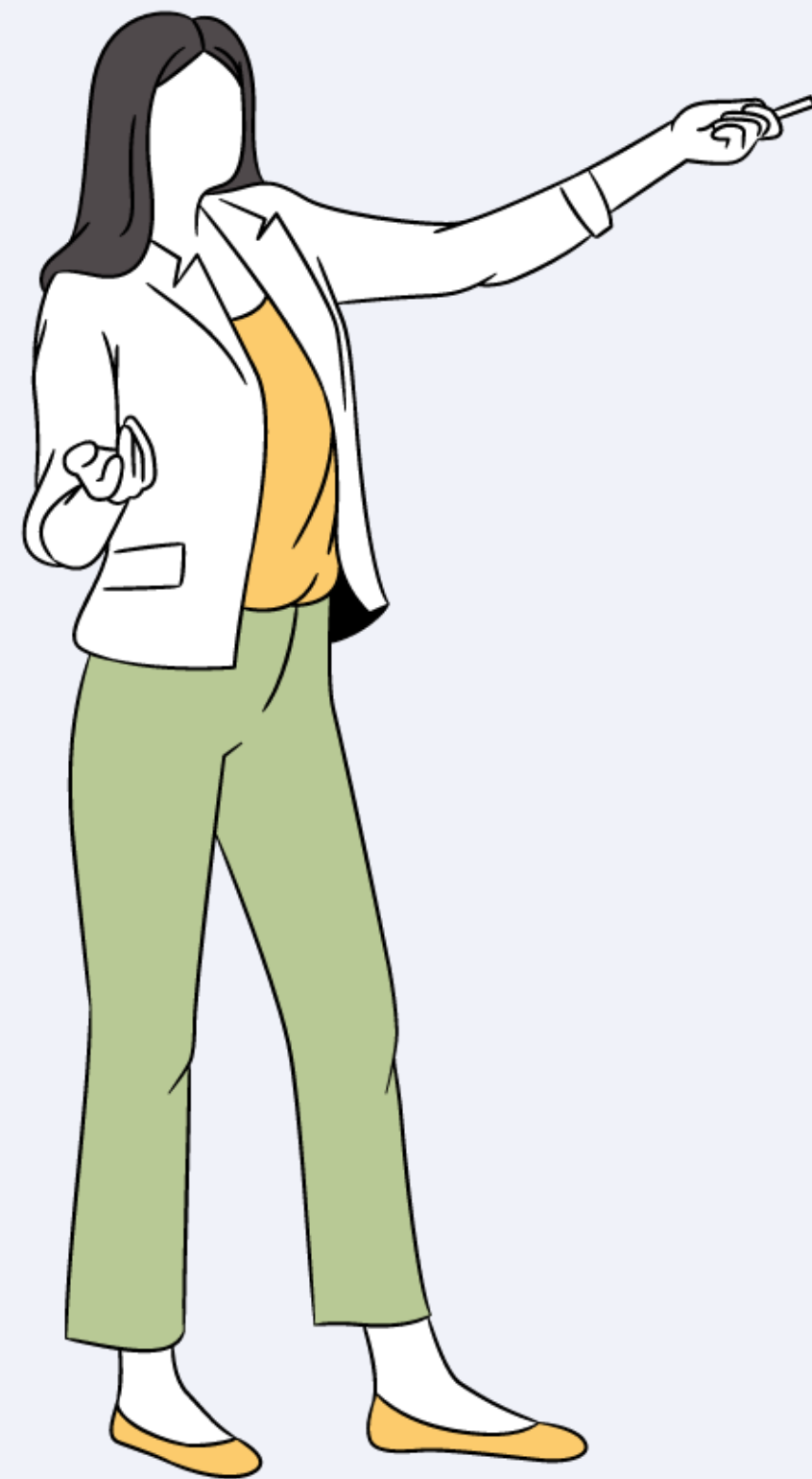


Although infrastructure is poor in Thailand **and** there aren't enough skilled workers, Intel has opened a plant in Bangkok.

By adding linking devices, we can create a more complex sentence. With the linking words, the text is easier to read and the relationship between the ideas is clearer.

Linking Ideas Together

Study the following explanation.



When you are writing in English, there are **two main components** that you must achieve in order to express yourself well:

- you must have strong, clear ideas.
- you must present these ideas in a well-organized fashion.

Linking words/phrases can be used to add ideas together, contrast ideas, show the reason for something, and give a result, to illustrate or to give an example and much more. These phrases are useful connectors that will *make your writing flow in a natural and organized way*.

Showing Cause & Effect

Often times in your writing, you will want to *describe effect that resulted from a particular cause*. There are several words you can use to talk about this kind of effect.

The connectors: **Consequently, As a result, Therefore, Thus, As, Since, Because**

Sample sentences:

- John did the research before launching his product. **As a result**, many customers like his product.
- **Since** you do not have your receipt, we are unable to offer you a refund.



Adding Information/Ideas Together

Another great way to strengthen an idea/argument/opinion is to add an example.

The phrases for example and for instance are popular ways to introduce an example.

The connectors: **Additionally, In addition, Moreover, Further, For instance, Also, As well as**

Sample sentences:

- *Learning English is a great way to connect with a large population. **Moreover**, it will improve your job prospects.*
- *We refuse to wait any longer. **Also**, this is the fourth time they cancel our meeting in this month.*
- *There are plenty of free ways to practice English online. **For instance**, test your comprehension skills with this listening test.*



Showing Similarity

You may present two ideas that are similar or compatible with each other. In this case, there are a few ways you can show this similarity.

The connectors: **Similarly, Likewise, In the same vein**

Sample sentences:

- Exercising every day will keep your body healthy. **Similarly**, reading and completing puzzles will keep your mind sharp.
- The V2 was not an ordinary weapon, it could only be used against cities. **Likewise** the atom bomb.



Showing Contrast

Another common situation in writing is having two ideas that differ or contrast with each other. In this case, there are several options you can use to express this contrast.

The connectors: **In contrast, However, Nonetheless, Conversely, On one hand... On the other hand, Although, But**

Sample sentences:

- Most people living in the town can only afford a cheap mobile phone.
However, *I have seen so many people walking around with brand new iPhones!*



Summarizing your ideas/thoughts

Finally, all good essays and arguments must come to an end. Writing conclusions is tough, but it's much easier when you use one of the words on this list.

The connectors: **Ultimately**, **In sum**, **In conclusion**, **To summarize**, **To conclude**, **On the whole**

Sample sentences:

- ***To summarize**, connectors are an important part of written English that will make your writing flow better.*



Exercise

Choose the suitable connector for the following sentences.

1. _____the restaurant has a good reputation, the food was terrible.
2. I finished the report, _____ it wasn't easy!
3. John bough the new equipment. _____, it was expensive.
4. _____, Fire Support Company had to set up their display of mortars, anti-tank missiles and Scimitar tracked recce vehicles.
5. A mother recognizes the feel of her child's skin when blindfolded. _____, she can instantly identify her baby's cry.
6. They will provide several free options, _____, special meals can be purchased
7. *I liked this book because it was well-written and, _____, told a very interesting story.*
8. _____ of the accident, he was out of work for three months.
9. We need to rethink the way we consume energy. Take, _____, our approach to transport.



Exercise – Answer Key

Suggested answers.



1. Although the restaurant has a good reputation, the food was terrible.
2. I finished the report, although it wasn't easy!
3. John bough the new equipment. However, it was expensive.
4. Similarly, Fire Support Company had to set up their display of mortars, anti-tank missiles and Scimitar tracked recce vehicles.
5. A mother recognizes the feel of her child's skin when blindfolded. Similarly, she can instantly identify her baby's cry.
6. They will provide several free options, additionally, special meals can be purchased
7. I liked this book because it was well-written and, moreover, told a very interesting story.
8. As a result of the accident, he was out of work for three months.
9. We need to rethink the way we consume energy. Take, for instance, our approach to transport.

Grammar Point

Study the following explanation about Subject-Verb Agreement.

Make Verbs Agree after Expression of Quantity

Another problem occurs when the subject is an expression of quantity, such as *all*, *most*, or *some*, followed by the preposition *of*. *But*, the subject can be decided depending on *the noun* follows the preposition *of*.

Look at the examples below:

All (of the book) was interesting.

Singular ---→ Singular

All (of the books) were interesting.

Plural ---→ Plural

All (of the information) was interesting.

Uncountable ---→ singular



Grammar Exercise



Are these sentences correct (C) or incorrect (I)?

1. The witnesses saw that most of the fire in the hills was extinguished.
2. Some of the animals from the zoo was released into the animal preserve.
3. All of the students in the class taught by Professor Roberts is required to turn in their term papers next Monday.
4. Half of the food that we are serving to the guess are still in the refrigerator.
5. We believe that some of the time of the employees is going to be devoted to quality control.
6. All of the witnesses in the jury trial, which lasted more than two weeks, have indicated that they believed that the defendant was guilty.
7. She did not know where most of the people in the room was from.
8. In spite of what was decided at the meeting, half of the procedures was not changed.
9. I was sure that all of the questions on the test were correct.
10. Most of the trouble that the employees discussed at the series of meetings was resolved within a few weeks

Grammar Exercise – Answer Key

Check your answers below.

1. The witnesses saw that most of the fire in the hills was extinguished. (C)
2. Some of the animals from the zoo was released into the animal preserve. (I - was should be were)
3. All of the students in the class taught by Professor Roberts is required to turn in their term papers next Monday.
(I - is should be are)
4. Half of the food that we are serving to the guess are still in the refrigerator. (I - are should be is)
5. We believe that some of the time of the employees is going to be devoted to quality control. (C)
6. All of the witnesses in the jury trial, which lasted more than two weeks, have indicated that they believed that the defendant was guilty. (C)
7. She did not know where most of the people in the room was from. (I - was should be were)
8. In spite of what was decided at the meeting, half of the procedures was not changed.
(I - was not changed should be were not changed)
9. I was sure that all of the questions on the test were correct. (C)
10. Most of the trouble that the employees discussed at the series of meetings was resolved within a few weeks (C)

Writing Exercise

Choose the right connector to make sentences as instructed below.

- Showing Cause & Effect

Ex. *He took too many loans and as a result, he went bankrupt.*

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- Adding Information/Ideas Together

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- Showing Similarity

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- Showing Contrast

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- Summarizing your ideas/thoughts

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Learning Reflection

Answer the following questions.



- What do you think of this topic?
- Is there a new thing you learn today? What is it?
- What is the most interesting part of this lesson?

Thank you.



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