

Explaining

For this purpose

Usage: Use this expression to explain how you want to achieve a certain goal.

Example: “The goal of the present article is to answer question X. For this purpose, we will...”

In order to

Usage: Use this expression to explain what needs to be done to achieve a certain goal.

Example: “In order to answer question X, we will...”

In other words

Usage: Use this expression when you want to express something in a different way to make it easier to understand.

Example: “We performed the tests sequentially. In other words, we first performed test X, then we performed test Y,...”

Adding information

In addition

Usage: Use this expression to add information.

Example: “The study showed evidence for X. In addition, it supported Y.”

Moreover

Usage: Use this expression to add information.

Example: “The study showed evidence for X. Moreover, it supported Y.”

Furthermore

Usage: Use this expression to add information.

Example: Example: “The study showed evidence for X. Furthermore, it supported Y.”

Likewise

Usage: Use this expression to add a point that is similar to your last point.

Example: “Study X found evidence for this claim. Likewise, several studies have provided indirect support.”

Similarly

Usage: Use this expression to add a point that is similar to your last point.

Example: “Study X found evidence for this claim. Similarly, several studies have provided indirect support.”

As well as

Usage: Use this expression instead of “also” or “and” to vary your wording.

Example: “Study X supported this point as well as Study Y and Z.”

Not only... but also

Usage: Use this expression to add information that is even more remarkable than the first piece of information.

Example: “Not only is it hot around the equator in summer, but also it remains hot throughout the year.”

Coupled with

Usage: Use this expression to link two (or more) arguments to make a point.

Example: “Coupled with the findings by X and Y, the findings by Z support that conclusion that...”

Describe a sequence of steps/events

Next

Example: "First, we performed X. Next, we performed Y."

Subsequently

Example: "First, we performed X. Subsequently, we performed Y."

After

Example: "After X was finished, we performed Y."

Firstly, secondly, thirdly...

Example: "We performed the experiment in three steps. Firstly, we performed X. Secondly, performed Y. Thirdly, We performed Z."

Demonstrating contrast

However

Usage: Use this expression to present a point that is contrary to what you said before.

Example: “Study X found support for this claim. However, a more recent study supported a different conclusion.”

On the other hand

Usage: Use this expression to present a point that is contrary to what you said before.

Example: “Study X found support for this claim. On the other hand, a more recent study supported a different conclusion.”

In contrast

Usage: Use this expression to emphasize that two points are conflicting.

Example: “Only one study supported X. In contrast, several studies supported Y”.

Giving examples

For example

Usage: Use this expression to give one or more examples for a point you just made.

Example: “A few studies have supported this claim. For example, XYZ showed that...”

For instance

Usage: Use this expression to give one or more examples for a point you just made.

Example: “A few studies have supported this claim. For instance, XYZ showed that...”

To give an illustration

Usage: Use this expression when you want to make your point more vivid with an example or an analogy.

Example: “The facial appearance of a person influences how that person is treated by other people. To give an illustration, people with an untrustworthy looking face tend to receive harsher sentencing decisions in court. “

Narrow your point down

More precisely

Usage: Use this expression to make clearer what you mean or to add details.

Example: “There are various different species. More precisely, there are eleven different species in this area.”

Specifically

Usage: Use this expression to make clearer what you mean or to add details.

Example: “There are various different species. Specifically, there are eleven different species in this area.”

Signalling importance

Importantly/ Most importantly

Usage: Use this expression to emphasize a certain point.

Example: “The results support our hypotheses. Most importantly, they support hypothesis X.”

It is important to note that...

Usage: Use this expression to add a point while emphasizing it.

Example: “Although we found support for our hypothesis, it is important to note that not all of our results were in line with it.”

Drawing conclusions from findings

This suggests...

Usage: Use this expression to communicate potential conclusions from your findings.

Example: "Our findings suggest that the treatment is effective."

This indicates...

Usage: Use this expression to communicate more definitive conclusions from your findings.

Example: "Our findings indicate that the treatment is effective."

This shows...

Usage: Use this expression to communicate more definitive conclusions from your findings.

Example: "Our findings show that the treatment is effective."

This supports...

Usage: Use this expression to point out that your findings strengthens a conclusion.

Example: "Our findings support the theory X."

This proves...

Usage: Don't use this expression in empirical research or use it only if you know very well what you are doing. When you say "this proves the theory" then you are saying that the theory is true beyond any doubt. However, theories can always turn out to be false in the future. As a rule of thumb, empirical researchers do not *prove* theories but they *support* theories with data. Proofs tend to be for mathematicians. If you have not been trained in logic and proofs, I recommend that you avoid the word.

Example: -

Making an inference

As a result

Usage: Use this expression when what you are saying follows or is caused by what you said in the previous sentence(s).

Example: “As yet, there is no research on this question. As a result, it remains unknown what the answer is.”

Consequently

Usage: Use this expression when what you are saying follows or is caused by what you said in the previous sentence(s).

Example: “As yet, there is no research on this question. Consequently, it remains unknown what the answer is.”

Therefore

Usage: Use this expression when what you are saying follows or is caused by what you said in the previous sentence(s).

Example: “As yet, there is no research on this question. Therefore, it remains unknown what the answer is.”

Hence

Usage: Use this expression when what you are saying follows or is caused by what you said in the previous sentence(s).

Example: “As yet, there is no research on this question. Hence, it remains unknown what the answer is.”

Concluding with reservations

Despite this

Usage: Use this expression to draw a conclusion while acknowledging that there are arguments that point in the opposite direction.

Example: “The data of eight participants could not be used because they did not complete the full study. Despite this, the results were significant.”

Nonetheless

Usage: Use this expression to draw a conclusion while acknowledging that there are arguments that point in the opposite direction.

Example: “The data of eight participants could not be used because they did not complete the full study. Nonetheless, the results were significant.”

Nevertheless

Usage: Use this expression to draw a conclusion while acknowledging that there are arguments that point in the opposite direction.

Example: “The data of eight participants could not be used because they did not complete the full study. Nevertheless, the results were significant.”

Notwithstanding

Usage: Use this expression to draw a conclusion while acknowledging that there are arguments that point in the opposite direction.

Example: “Notwithstanding the arguments made by X, most researchers agree that Y.”

Provided that

Usage: Use this expression to mention a limitation of your argument.

Example: “Our findings suggest that intervention X is effective, provided that it is executed correctly.”

Summarising

In sum

Usage: Use this expression to summarize the main points of a paragraph, section, or the whole paper.

Example: “In conclusion, our findings support hypothesis X.”

Overall

Usage: Use this expression to summarize the main points of a paragraph, section, or the whole paper.

Example: “Overall, our findings support hypothesis X.”

In conclusion

Usage: Use this expression to summarize the main points of a paragraph, section, or the whole paper.

Example: “In conclusion, our findings support hypothesis X.”