

# The Penn Discourse Treebank - Questionnaire

Marie Grace, Karan Praharaj

This exercise involves identifying explicit connectives in text, and coming up with implicit connectives where adjacent sentences are not related by an explicit connective. You may even leave the sentence unannotated if there is no explicit connective, or no potential implicit connective.

**Identify the discourse connective and its type – subordinating conjunction, coordinating conjunction, adverbial connectives, implicit connective, or no connective.**

- 1) The 1987 crash was “a false alarm however you view it,” says University of Chicago economist Victor Zarnowitz.

Connective :

Type :

- 2) Digital Equipment gained 1 3/8 to 89 3/4 despite reporting earnings for the September quarter that were on the low end of expectations.

Connective : despite

Type : subordinate

- 3) Those bills can't easily be vetoed in their entirety because they often are needed to keep the government operating.

Connective : because

Type : subordinate

- 4) Since McDonald's menu prices rose this year, the actual decline may have been more.

Connective : Since

Type : subordinating/adverbial

- 5) He joined the firm in 1963 and bought it from the owners the next year.

Connective : and

Type : coordinating

- 6) The engineers said the bridge was now safe, however, no one wanted to risk crossing it.

Connective : however

Type : adverbial

- 7) Interest during the first year paid semiannually at 7.51%. Thereafter, interest paid annually at 7.65%.

Connective : Thereafter

Type : adverbial

- 8) New telephone lines posted healthy growth. Overall they increased 2.8% to 12.1 million.

Connective : Overall

Type :

- 9) The chief culprits, he says, are big companies and business groups that buy huge amounts of land “not for their corporate use, but for resale at huge profit.”. As a result, The Ministry of Finance has proposed a series of measures that would restrict business investment in real estate.

Connective : As a result

Type : Adverbial

- 10) There is a small Renoir on the wall. Zurich-based magazine Bilanz lists Mr. Rey as having a fortune of about 1.5 billion Swiss francs.

Connective : [ ]

Type : implicit

- 11) It's a shame that their meeting never took place. Mr. Katzenstein certainly would have learned something, and it's even possible Mr. Morita would too.

Connective : and, [implicit = because]

Type :

**How would you annotate the discourse connective(s) in the following sentences?:**

- 12) Editorials in the Greenville newspaper allowed that Mrs. Yeargin was wrong, but also said the case showed how testing was being overused.

- ☐ Editorials in the Greenville newspaper allowed that Mrs. Yeargin was wrong, but also said the case showed how testing was being overused.
- ☒ ~~Editorials in the Greenville newspaper allowed that Mrs. Yeargin was wrong, but also said the case showed how testing was being overused.~~
- ☐ Editorials in the Greenville newspaper allowed that Mrs. Yeargin was wrong, but also said the case showed how testing was being overused.

- 13) Despite recent declines in yields, investors continue to pour cash into money funds.

- ☒ ~~Despite recent declines in yields, investors continue to pour cash into money funds.~~
- ☒ ~~Despite recent declines in yields, investors continue to pour cash into money funds.~~