Linking words are essential for IELTS writing task 2 to get a high score. The word list below will help you show the examiner a range of connecting words to get a high score in the criterion of Coherence and Cohesion which is 25% of your marks. You will be checked on your range, accuracy and your flexibility of linking words in IELTS writing task 2.

## Linking Words for IELTS Writing Task 2

| Listing & Order              | Adding Information           | Giving Examples           |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
|                              |                              |                           |
| firstly                      | in addition                  | for example               |
| secondly                     | additionally                 | one clear example is      |
| thirdly                      | furthermore                  | for instance              |
| fourthly                     | moreover                     | such as                   |
| lastly /last but not least / | also                         | namely                    |
| finally                      | not only but also            | to illustrate             |
|                              | as well as                   | in other words            |
|                              |                              |                           |
| Results and Consequences     | Highlighting and Stressing   | Concessions and Contrasts |
| as a result                  | particularly                 | admittedly                |
| consequently                 | in particular                | however                   |
| therefore                    | specifically                 | nevertheless              |
| thus                         | especially                   | even though               |
| hence                        | obviously                    | although                  |
| so                           | of course                    | despite                   |
| for this reason              | clearly                      | in spite of               |
|                              |                              | still                     |
|                              |                              | on the other hand         |
|                              |                              | by contrast               |
|                              |                              | in comparison             |
|                              |                              | alternatively             |
|                              |                              | another option could be   |
|                              |                              | ·                         |
| Reasons and Causes           | Giving your Opinion          | Concluding Linkers        |
| because                      | In my opinion                | in conclusion             |
| owing to                     | I think                      | to conclude               |
| due to                       | I believe                    | to sum up                 |
| since                        | Ladmit                       | to reiterate              |
| as                           | In my view                   |                           |
|                              | I concur / I agree           |                           |
|                              | I disagree / I cannot accept |                           |
|                              |                              |                           |
|                              |                              |                           |

The above linking devices can be used for both Academic IELTS and General Training IELTS. Spelling is important and any words spelled incorrectly will adversely affect your score. There are also other useful expressions listed above for giving your opinion.

Please see my blog (www.ieltsliz.com) for model essays using a range of linking devices and also practice exercises to improve your understanding of connective devices.