
IELTS Writing Linking Words PDF

Knowing the best linking words for IELTS Writing is key to getting a good score. To understand what linking words you should use, you need to know what purpose each linking word serves. In this PDF, we'll look at a list of linking words, grouped by purpose. Then you'll be given some activities to apply this knowledge.

Categories of Linkers for IELTS Writing

While most of these words can be used in either task, I've put asterisks (*) by different words that are particularly good for Task 1 or Task 2. Here's the key:

* Especially good linking words for IELTS Writing Task 1 (Academic)

** Especially good IELTS Writing Task 2 linking words

(Note, however, that any of these phrase categories can be pretty useful in either essay!)

Opinions**

- I think/feel/believe that...
- Personally, I feel that...
- As far as I am concerned...
- From my point of view...
- I admit that....
- I concur that...
- I agree that....

Addition*

- Moreover,...
- Furthermore,...
- In addition,...

- Additionally,...
- Likewise,...
- On top of that,...

Emphasis**

- Clearly,...
- Indeed,...
- Especially,...
- In particular,...
- Particularly,...
- Without a doubt,...
- Obviously,...
- Importantly,...

Expand your answers Comparison/Opposition*

- However,...
- In contrast,...
- By contrast...
- In comparison,...
- Meanwhile,...
- On the other hand,...
- But...
- Alternatively,...
- Nevertheless,...

Condition**

- If...
- Unless...
- On the condition that...
- Provided that...

- As long as...
- Supposing that...
- Otherwise...

Concession**

- Admittedly,...
- Even though...
- Although...
- Despite...
- In spite of...

Example**

- For instance,...
- For example,...
- ...,such as...
- A very good example is...
- The best example is...
- To illustrate,...

Sequence**

- Firstly,...
- First of all,...
- To start with...
- Secondly,...
- Next,...
- Thirdly/fourthly/etc.,...
- Lastly,...
- Finally,...

Consequence/Result**

- As a result,...
- As a consequence,...

- Consequently,...
- Accordingly,...
- Therefore,...
- On that account,...
- For that reason,...

Conclusion**

- In conclusion,...
- To conclude,...
- In the end,...
- Finally,...
- To summarize,...
- To sum up,...

Ready to put your knowledge from the IELTS linking words PDF to the test? On the next page, there are some exercises you can use to practice using linkers for IELTS!

Practice with Linking Words for IELTS Writing

Here are a couple of practice exercises. Consult the list of linking words above to fill in the blanks. The answers appear on the next page.

IELTS Academic Writing Task One

You can find the prompt for this question [here!](#)

These graphics highlight several key trends. (1) _____, in general terms, slightly more than half the population owned computers in 2002. (2) _____, that number rose to roughly 75% over the next eight years. (3) _____, these numbers varied by group. (4) _____, postgraduates were always ahead of the general population: roughly three-quarters of postgraduates owned computers in 2002, that figure rose to nearly 95% by 2010. (5) _____, those who had not finished high school began with only a 15% computer ownership rate, which increased to about 45% after eight years.

IELTS Academic Writing Task Two

You can see a full essay and answer explanation for this prompt [here!](#)

The Prompt

Parents should not pressure their children to choose a particular profession. Young people should have the freedom to choose a career path they like.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

(1) _____, young people need freedom to make choices, especially when it comes to their careers. Deep down, some parents may want their children to choose prestigious careers, or jobs that will impact society in some way. These wishes are normal and not necessarily harmful. (2) _____, it can be problematic if these desires turn into firm expectations. (3) _____, offering a child freedom does not imply that parents should be absent. Parents should strive to foster open communication about career decisions. (4) _____, if Tim's aspirations do not line up with his parents' wishes, he may, (5) _____ fear that approaching them could lead to judgement and confrontation.

IELTS Academic Writing Task One Answers

- (1) Firstly/First of all/To start with
- (2) However/But/Nevertheless
- (3) On the other hand/However/But/Nevertheless
- (4) Any example linking word would work here except “such as,” because this is the beginning of a sentence.
- (5) Any comparison/opposition word would work here.

IELTS Academic Writing Task Two Answers

- (1) Any opinion linking word or phrase would work here except for “I concur that” or “I agree that,” because this is the first idea introduced in the essay.
- (2) Admittedly,
- (3) However,/But/On the other hand,/Nevertheless,
- (4) Any example linking word would work here except “such as,” because this is the beginning of a sentence.
- (5) consequently/as a result/as a consequence/accordingly/therefore/on that account/for that reason,