

JOINING IDEAS

Connect ideas with transitional words

Use the **words** in this bank to **connect ideas** in your sentences and paragraph(s). Remember that **punctuation varies** depending on the type of conjunction.

JOINING IDEAS WITH COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS (FANBOYS):

Each of these conjunctions may be used to combine two or more independent clauses.

- I took the train for Montreal yesterday, **but** I showed up late for the meeting.
- The boiling point of water is 100 degrees Celsius, **so** we boiled the beaker to that temperature.

For And Nor But Or Yet So

JOINING IDEAS WITH SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS:

Each of these words may be used to combine two or more clauses, one independent the other dependent.

- **As long as** it keeps snowing, the city will have to clear the snow.
- We will arrive in Madrid on Thursday **provided that** we catch the 9 p.m. plane.

Although Since Because After Until Wherever If etc.

Different words may be used to accomplish specific tasks.

EXPLAIN A CAUSE OR REASON:

if ... as due to ...
 since ... because
 because ... so that

CONTRAST IDEAS:

although whereas despite
 even though though
 if unless

IDENTIFY A PLACE:

where
 wherever

DESCRIBE THE TIMING OF AN EVENT:

when as soon as... since
 whenever before until
 after once... while

DESCRIBE A CONDITION:

as long as in case
 only if unless
 even if provided that

JOINING IDEAS WITH ADVERBIAL CONJUNCTIONS:

Each of these words may be used to connect and transition between two independent clauses.

- I am driving across Canada; **eventually**, I will reach Vancouver.
- She arrived at the recital. She was, **however**, very late.
- She was disappointed because her brother arrived late. **Also**, her brother lost the gift he was supposed to bring.

Eventually However Also Thus In brief In particular On the contrary etc.



JOINING IDEAS

Continued

JOINING IDEAS WITH ADVERBIAL CONJUNCTIONS (CONT'D):

PRESENT AN ALTERNATIVE VIEW:

on the contrary in spite of
on the other hand in fact
instead regardless
otherwise

ADD A POINT:

moreover but also in addition
again besides additionally
furthermore and then ... not only ...
also and

PLACE EMPHASIS:

certainly in fact
undoubtedly of course
indeed

GIVE AN EXAMPLE:

for example for instance
indeed specifically
namely in particular
in other words that is
to explain such as

ADD DETAIL:

also specifically
moreover in other words
besides to elaborate
furthermore

PRESENT A RESULT:

thus accordingly
therefore hence
consequently as a result

PROVIDE EVIDENCE:

[this] shows that
[this] proves that
[this] suggests that
one may deduce that

CONCEDE A POINT

granted at the same time
albeit of course
after all naturally

QUALIFY AN ARGUMENT:

possibly maybe
probably actually
perhaps

GENERALIZE:

usually always
most often never
constantly in general
rarely

PRESENT IDEAS IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE:

most importantly
least importantly

CONCLUDE OR SUMMARIZE:

in brief to conclude
in short finally
in summary on the whole
in conclusion to sum

COMPARE IDEAS:

in a like manner similarly
on the one hand likewise

DESCRIBE THE TIMING OF AN EVENT:

first, second ... usually frequently in the past
next again after seldom
subsequently soon shortly later on
previously then lately eventually
meanwhile while it happened shortly
sometimes finally lately

CONTRAST IDEAS:

however nonetheless
nevertheless still

For more information, contact the Academic Skills Centre.