

ESSAY WRITING

Connectors and useful expressions

1. CONNECTORS

- What are connectors?

Connectors (also called conjunctions) are words or expressions which we use to establish different types of relationships between words or sentences. When we use connectors appropriately, we organise what we say in a more logical, understandable way.

- Types of connectors

- CONTRAST

- but (pero)
- although/though (aunque)
in spite of /despite +noun or -ing /despite the fact that (a pesar de)
- however (sin embargo)
nevertheless /nonetheless (no obstante)
on the other hand (por otra parte)
by contrast (por el contrario)
- on the one hand ... on the other hand... (por una parte... por otra...)
- In contrast to/ with (en contraste con)
As opposed to (en contraste con, por el contrario)
- On the contrary (por el contrario)
Alternatively (si no, otra posibilidad es que...)
Instead of (en lugar de, en vez de...)
The former... the latter (el primero... el último...)
Conversely (a la inversa)

- ADDITION

- Furthermore / moreover / in addition to (noun phrase or -ing form (además))
As well as (así como)
- Apart from this/that (aparte de esto/eso)
- Also (también)
- Besides (además)
- Additionally (además)
- What is more (Es más)
- On top of that (además de eso)

- EXAMPLE

- one such example is (un ejemplo es)
such as (tal, tales como)
- in other words (en otras palabras)
- for example / for instance (por ejemplo)
let me exemplify this concept by/with (permítanme ejemplificar este concepto con...)
that is / that is to say (es decir)
one instance could be (un ejemplo de ello podría ser...)

- SEQUENCE / TIME

- first of all (antes de nada)
- first /firstly (en primer lugar, primero)
second / secondly (en segundo lugar)
- later / after that / afterwards (luego, después de que...)
- then / next (entonces, luego, seguidamente)
- finally / in the end (finalmente, al final)

- TIME

- once (una vez)
- after (después de (que))
- meanwhile / in the meantime (mientras tanto)
before reaching that stage (antes de ese punto, etapa, sección...)

- prior to (antes de)
- after that stage (tras esa fase /período)
- subsequently (posteriormente)
- eventually (eventualmente)
- whenever (siempre que)
- while (cuando, mientras)
- as soon as (en cuanto)
- before (antes de que)
- until / till (hasta (que))
- now that (ahora que)
- since (desde)
- for (durante)
- all of a sudden / suddenly (de repente)
- **PURPOSE**
- so that / in order that +sentence (para que)
- in order to / so as to / to + infinitive (para)
- **RESULT**
- as a result (of) / consequently (a consecuencia / como resultado (de))
- therefore (por consiguiente)
- for this / that reason (por esta/esa razón)
- so / that is why / because of this/that (por esto / eso)
- hence (de ahí que)
- With this in mind (teniendo esto en cuenta)
- on account of the fact that ... (en vista del hecho de que...)
- bearing this in mind (teniendo esto en mente)
- taking this into account (teniendo esto en cuenta)
- thus (por lo tanto)
- **CAUSE**
- because of / on account of (a causa de)
- owing to /due to (debido a)
- as a result of (como resultado de)
- by virtue of (en virtud de)
- thanks to (gracias a)
- following (a raíz de)
- in view of / in the light of (en vista de)
- in the face of (ante)
- for fear of (por miedo a)
- for the simple reason that (por la simple razón de)
- given that (dado que)
- caused by /brought about to (causado por)

2. SOME USEFUL EXPRESSIONS FOR ESSAY AND REPORT WRITING

- **TO PRESENT A TOPIC**

- It is often said / asserted / claimed that... → Se suele decir que...
- It is universally acknowledged that... → Todo el mundo reconoce que...
- It is a well-known fact that... → Todo el mundo sabe que.../ Es un hecho muy conocido que...
- For the great majority of people... → Para la gran mayoría de las personas...
- A problem that is often debated nowadays is that of... → Un tema muy debatido hoy en día es...
- One of the most striking features / aspects of this problem / issue / topic / question... → Una de las características / aspectos más relevantes de este problema / tema / pregunta...
- A number of key issues arise from... → ... plantea cierto número de cuestiones fundamentales.
- First of all, let us try to understand / consider ... → En primer lugar, tratemos de entender... / consideremos...
- By way of introduction... → A manera de introducción...
- What we are mainly concerned with here is... → El tema principal que nos ocupa en esta ocasión...

- SEQUENCE OF IDEAS IN A PARAGRAPH

- This brings up to the question of whether... → Esto nos lleva a plantearnos la pregunta de si...
- On the one hand... on the other... → Por una parte... por otra...
- As for... → En relación con...
- Incidentally, we must not forget... → A propósito de esto, no debemos olvidar que...
- As far as ... is concerned... → Por lo que se refiere a...
- Added to that, ... → Además de eso,... / Por añadidura, ...

- TO EXPRESS PERSONAL OPINION

- I think / don't think that...
- I think it is probable that... → Creo que es probable que...
- I believe that... → Creo que...
- I agree / don't agree that... → Estoy de acuerdo / en desacuerdo en que...
- My own view of this is that... → Mi visión propia del tema es que...
- Speaking personally... → Personalmente hablando, ...
- It seems to me that... → A mi parecer, ...
- My personal opinion of... → Mi opinión personal sobre...
- I feel strongly that... → Creo firmemente que...
- In my opinion... → En mi opinión...
- In my view... → En mi opinión...
- For my part... → Por mi parte...
- I maintain that... → Mantengo que...
- My point of view is that... → Mi punto de vista es que...
- From my point of view... → Bajo mi punto de vista...
- For me,... → Para mí,...
- It seems to me that... → A mi parecer,...
- As I see it... → Tal y como yo lo veo, ...
- A lot of people claim that... → Mucha gente opina que...
- For me, the gist of the matter is that... → En mi opinión, la clave de este asunto está en que...

- TO EXPRESS POSSIBILITY AND PROBABILITY

- It is highly probable that... → Es muy probable que...
- There is a strong chance that... → Hay muchas posibilidades de que...
- It is reasonable to think that... → Es razonable pensar que...
- It stands to reason that... → Es lógico pensar que...
- It would appear.../It would seem that... → Según parece...
- It is within the bounds of possibility that... → Está dentro de lo posible que...
- There is reason to believe that... → Hay razones para pensar que...
- There are grounds for believing / for the belief that... → Existen motivos para pensar que...

- TO EXPRESS COMPARISONS

- In comparison with/ compared with / when compared with → En comparación con /comparado con / cuando lo comparamos con...
- By comparison,... → En comparación, ...
- If you compare... → Si se compara...
- Whereas / whilst → Mientras que...
- In contrast to... → En contraste con...
- As opposed to... /Unlike... → A diferencia de...
- The former... the latter → El primero... el último...
- There is some resemblance / similarity between ... → Existen similitudes / parecidos entre...
- It is greatly superior to... → Es infinitamente superior que...
- It is much inferior to... → Es mucho más inferior que...