

Linking words and expressions

Some gaps are linking words. For these, you will need to think carefully about the meaning.

TIP: Think about the linking words you know that fit the meaning, then see which one also fits the grammar in the sentence.

11 Look at the gaps in the sentences (1-6). Answer the questions (a-c).

- a Which ones need a word to express contrast?
- b Which ones need a word to introduce a similar idea?
- c Which one needs a time expression?

- 1 _____ travelling by bus in Peru is sometimes slow, it can also be an interesting experience.
- 2 I wasn't keen to go to the festival as it was such a long way away. _____, I couldn't really afford it.
- 3 The visit to the museum was rewarding _____ the crowds.
- 4 The winter months are characterised by cold nights and heavy rainfall. _____, the summer months are gloriously hot and sunny.
- 5 There are lots of different kinds of food on offer at the market, and there are often cookery demonstrations, _____.
- 6 He continued to work on his painting _____ we were chatting.

12 Choose the correct linking words (A-C) to complete the sentences (1-6) in Ex 11.

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 A Although | B But | C However |
| 2 A But | B Besides | C Too |
| 3 A however | B whereas | C despite |
| 4 A Whereas | B However | C Also |
| 5 A too | B plus | C however |
| 6 A while | B whereas | C but |

There are also a lot of common linking expressions that are made up of more than one word.

13 Complete the linking expressions in the sentences with one word in each gap.

- 1 She had suffered from pains in her legs ever _____ the accident.
- 2 I felt relaxed and happy even _____ we hadn't managed to reach the summit.
- 3 I knew the championship was within my grasp if _____ I could keep myself motivated.
- 4 There were monkeys in the trees, as _____ as many kinds of brightly coloured birds.
- 5 He continued to work in _____ of his poor health.
- 6 We decided to travel by train _____ than flying.
- 7 Everyone was happy _____ from George, who continued to complain.
- 8 Our boat trip was cancelled _____ to the severe weather.
- 9 I took my phone with me in _____ anyone tried to call me.
- 10 The islands are closed to visitors during the breeding season in _____ to protect the birds.

EXAM TASK

Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Fix it with friends

We have all got used (0) TO buying new things, using them for a while and then throwing them away. But it (1) _____ become clear in recent years that this is not sustainable, as we are generating huge amounts of waste.

(2) _____ response to this, many people are setting up informal cafés (3) _____ people can bring broken items for repair. The cafés provide tools, help from volunteers and plenty (4) _____ friendly chat. Dan, twenty-two, works at a repair café in Bristol. 'Many modern devices are difficult to repair (5) _____ you have the correct tools and a bit of knowledge,' he says. 'I don't have any qualifications, so I've just picked things (6) _____ as I've gone along.'

The emphasis is on teaching people. 'We don't repair things *for* people,' Dan says. 'What we do (7) _____ help them to repair things themselves.' So, the next time you have something that's broken, why not look out (8) _____ a repair event near you?

