Connectives

A **connective** is a word or phrase that links clauses within a sentence or links sentences within a text. There are different types of connectives: **subordinate conjunctions** (see page 22) and **connecting adverbs**, such as **however**, **then** and **therefore**.

Connecting adverbs

Connecting adverbs help to bring a whole text together, and help it to flow smoothly. They do this in several different ways:

- By explaining a point, as in: **for instance**, **for example** and **in other words**. For example, 'I eat a lot of chocolate. **For instance**, I can eat a whole bar of chocolate before breakfast!'
- By adding a point or making a point stronger, as in: **also**, **furthermore**, **in particular**, **besides**, **anyway**, **after all** and **apart from**. For example, 'I eat a lot of chocolate. **After all**, they say that chocolate is good for you!'
- By showing cause and effect, as in: **therefore**, **consequently** and **as a result**. For example, 'I do a lot of exercise. **Consequently**, I am fit and healthy.'
- By showing time, as in: **after**, **as soon as**, **while**, **afterwards**, **meanwhile**, **eventually**, **just then**, **later** and **finally**. For example, 'I ran a marathon at the weekend. **Afterwards**, I was exhausted – but very happy!'
- By ordering a list, as in: **firstly**, **first of all**, **secondly**, **next**, **after** and **finally**. For example: '**First of all**, dig the holes. **Next**, plant the seeds and, **after that**, refill the holes with soil. **Finally**, water the seeds regularly and wait for them to grow into plants.'
- By comparing ideas that are similar, as in: **as with**, **equally**, **like** and **similarly**. For example, 'I love going swimming. **Equally**, I love playing in the park!'
- By showing opposite ideas, as in: **alternatively**, **however**, **instead of**, **nevertheless**, **on the other hand**, **otherwise**, **unlike** and **whereas**. For example, 'I love going swimming. **However**, I don't like cycling.'

Take note!

Usually, commas are used after connecting adverbs. However, a comma is not needed after **after**, **as soon as**, **while**, **as with**, **like**, **instead of**, **unlike** and **whereas**.

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Over to You!

1 Complete the text using the connective adverbs below.

for instance **finally** **first of all** **furthermore**

Looking after a pet is a big responsibility. **1** _____, you must make sure that it has food and water every day. **2** _____, some animals need a lot of space. **3** _____, a horse needs a field and a stable. **4** _____, it is a big financial commitment. *[2]*

2 **Complete the text with connective adverbs that show cause and effect.**

More young people are spending their free time in front of a screen. **1** _____, they are playing outdoors less and less. **2** _____, they aren't getting exercise and, **3** _____, they aren't as healthy. *[1]*

3 **Complete the text with connective adverbs that show time.**

1 _____ we arrived at the campsite, we unloaded the car. **2** _____ Natalie went to fetch water, mum and I put up the tent. Natalie and I went to explore the woods nearby **3** _____ mum cooked. **4** _____ an hour, we realised that we were lost! **5** _____, we heard mum calling us. We were so relieved! **6** _____ dinner, we played cards and, _____, got into our sleeping bags, ready for bed. *[3]*

4 **Complete the text with connective adverbs that show opposite ideas.**

My parents love going on sightseeing holidays. **1** _____, I prefer beach holidays. **2** _____ walking around old buildings, I enjoy playing in the sea. **3** _____, I love playing on the beach. **4** _____, I would prefer to go on a sightseeing holiday than not go on holiday at all! *[2]*

5 **Add commas to the text.**

My pet mouse died last week. Consequently I would like another pet – maybe something different. My best friend has just got a dog. Unfortunately my mum doesn't want a dog in the house. Also you have to take a dog out for walks a lot. What if it's raining?! Anyway a dog is out of the question. Maybe I'll just get another mouse! *[2]*

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