

## Exercise 7

Read the information. Then read the examiner's questions and the student's answers. Choose the incorrect words and phrases.

Make sure you know how and where discourse markers are used in sentences. Not all discourse markers that share a particular function have the same meaning or are used in the same way. For example, *as well* and *also* both have the same meaning, but *as well* is used at the end of an idea, whereas *also* can begin a sentence or be used before the main verb (except with the verb *be*, which it follows):

*He **also** plays tennis.*

*He is **also** a great tennis player.*

***Also**, he is a great tennis player.*

*He is a great tennis player **as well**.*

However, we can begin a sentence with the discourse marker *as well as this*:

***As well as this**, he is a great tennis player.*

**Examiner:** Who do you think should be responsible for ensuring that children eat healthily?

**Student:** I would say that the parents are responsible for ensuring that their children eat healthily as/because/so it is the parents who understand the effects of a poor diet far better than a child. As well,/ In addition,/ I would add that I think teachers and schools should play a role in educating children. I would argue that nutrition is so important that it should have a place on the curriculum, say,/ such as/that said, in a biology class. Having said that,/ That said,/ Whereas I do think the age of the child is important when answering this question. Once a child hits their teenage years, they should really start taking some responsibility for themselves, and this should include what they put into their bodies.

**Examiner:** It has been said that the fast pace of modern life is bad for our mental health. Do you agree with this?

**Student:** To some extent. I do believe that certain aspects of modern life, an example of this is/for instance/such as long working hours, can have an enormous effect on mental health. Many people feel a lot of pressure at work

to do extra hours and to meet deadlines and as a consequence/as a result/the reason being , put too much pressure on themselves. This can cause stress-related illnesses. Having said that/However/Moreover , it should be remembered that many aspects of modern life are much easier for us than they were for, say, our grandparents, so perhaps life nowadays is no more stressful than it was in the past.

**Examiner:** Should physical education be a compulsory subject at school?

**Student:** Personally speaking, I would say so. Exercise is a habit that needs to be learnt when you are young. If children learn sports at school or get accustomed to doing exercise, they are more likely to continue this habit in later life. Having said that/On the one hand/That said , I do believe that there should be more options available for physical education. Many school children don't enjoy certain sports, especially/in particular/specially competitive sports or ones that involve hand-eye coordination. Perhaps if schools offered other alternatives, like yoga or t'ai chi, more children would want to participate. In a nutshell/In the end/When all is said and done , the important thing is to help children find physical activities that can become lifelong habits.