# Discourse markers

**Choose the correct answer.**

1. The concert was cancelled (in spite of / due to / owing to) poor ticket sales.
2. He pretended to like her new haircut (in case / in order not to / so that) hurt her feelings.
3. The factory closed and (due to / nevertheless / consequently) many workers lost their jobs.
4. He decided to resign from his post (so that / in order / so as to) spend more time with his family.
5. The police are unable to arrest them (as / in case / because of) there is not enough evidence.
6. (Because of / Since / Because) her inability to arrive at work on time, she was sacked.
7. (Though / Despite / Even though) knowing the risks, he decided to climb the mountain alone.
8. (Although / Despite / However) it wasn't always easy, I managed to have a successful career.

**Write the correct answer into the box.** | the | on | by | of | as | a | in | to |

1. [ ] conclusion, there is no doubt that more research is needed in this area.
2. [ ] far as money is concerned, this project has been a disaster.
3. You've managed to cope really well with the situation, on [ ] whole.
4. [ ] the way, I forgot to mention that I'm leaving the company.
5. Talking [ ] weddings, have Al and Sarah fixed a date for theirs yet?
6. As [ ] matter of fact, I appeared on a TV show when I was a student.
7. [ ] sum up, everyone needs to play their part in saving the planet.
8. This property is expensive. [ ] the other hand, it would be a good investment.

**Check this for more exercises**: https://elt.oup.com/student/englishfile/advanced/

Choose the correct answers.

**1.** Jerry will want a ticket for that concert. (Mind you / Apparently / Admittedly / At least) I think he will.

**2.** We should buy the leather sofa. (No doubt / Admittedly / By the way / So to speak), it is very expensive, but it will last a long time.

**3.** I persuaded Elaine to buy a lottery ticket, just for a laugh, and (at least / by the way / I mean / guess what) ? She won a prize!

**4.** We couldn't even get £500 for our old car. (Mind you / No doubt / At least / Apparently), it was in dreadful condition.

**5.** You can't expect Marc to be so patient. (Apparently / Admittedly / After all / Naturally), he's only an eight-year-old.

**6.** People continue to buy things, in an ecstasy of consumption, (so to speak / of course / severely / by the way) .

**7.** The meeting will be from 4.00 till 6.00. Oh, (still / as a matter of fact / honestly / by the way) , that new Italian film is on at 8.00.

**8.** That was one of the most boring parties I've ever been to. ( I mean / Still / Obviously / Of course) , the music was good.

# Discourse markers

-**With reference to**: *With reference to your order placed on 12th March, we are pleased to inform you that ...*

-**Regarding:** *Regarding this particular offer – I really don't think ...*

-**As far as ... is concerned**: *There are no problems about marketing. As far as manufacturing is concerned, I think the best thing is ...* (Note that it is wrong to leave out**is concerned** after **as far as** ...)

-**On the other hand**: *Arranged marriages are unknown in the West. In many Asian countries, on the other hand, they are very common.*

-**Whereas**: *John is very hardworking whereas his brother's rather lazy.*

-**However** and **nevertheless/nonetheless**: *She found him physically unattractive. Nevertheless, she agreed to marry him.* (Note that **nevertheless** is very formal)

*The watch is expensive, however, it is worth it.*

-**In the same way** and **similarly**: *He was a great player who used his reflexes to stop suddenly while running with the ball. In the same way he used his reflexes to move away from his opponents.*

*The camel has adapted itself to desert regions by growing a hump on its back. Similarly,the giraffe has a grown a long neck, which enables it to eat leaves from tall trees.*

-**On the contrary**: *'Interesting film?' 'On the contrary, it was a total waste of time.'*

-**Anyway/anyhow/at any rate/at least** (These expressions can mean 'what was said before doesn't matter'.): *I don't know what time I will arrive. Anyway / anyhow / at any rate I will be there before 10 o' clock.*

-**By the way/Incidentally**: *Alice wants to discuss a few things with you. By the way / incidentally she has quit her job.*

-**Firstly; secondly, thirdly** (Note that **firstly, secondly, lastly** etc., are more formal than **first, second, last** etc., and are more common in British than American English):*We need to rent an apartment. Second(ly), we need to find work. And third(ly)...*

-**Moreover/what is more/ in addition/ furthermore/ besides/on top of that**:*They are desperately short of food. In addition, they need doctors and medicines.*

*Laptops are getting cheaper all the time. Furthermore,they are becoming more powerful.*

-**On the whole/in general/broadly speaking/by and large/to a great extent**: *On the whole, we had a nice time.*

*In general, few people are satisfied with their life.*

-**I think/I feel/I reckon/I guess/in my opinion/in my view** (Note that I think, I feel and I reckon are informal. I guess is used only in American English. The expressions in my opinion/view are formal): *I think you should give it another try.*

*I feel you are making a mistake.*

*In my opinion, it would be better to discuss our concerns with them.*

-**Therefore/as a result/consequently**: *He reduced the amount of time studying for his final exams. As a result, his marks were rather low.*

Th*We've lost over 3,000 customers over the past six months. Consequently, we have been forced to cut back our advertising budget.*