

Linking words:

Linking words help you to connect ideas and sentences when you speak or write English. We can use linking words to give examples, add information, summarise, sequence information, give a reason or result, or to contrast ideas.

Here's a list of the most common linking words and phrases:

- **Giving examples**

For example and **For instance** are most common way to give example

- **Adding information**

And: Ideas are often linked by and. In a list, you put a comma between each item, but not before and.

- **Giving a reason**

Because can be used at the beginning or in the middle of a sentence. For example, "Because it was raining, the match was postponed."

Because of is followed by a noun. "Because of bad weather, the football match was postponed."

- **Contrasting ideas**

But is more informal than **however**. It is not normally used at the beginning of a sentence. "He works hard, but he doesn't earn much."

Or is a conjunction that connects two or more possibilities or alternatives. It connects words, phrases and clauses which are the same grammatical type:

"Which do you prefer? Leather **or** suede?"

On the other hand, It is used to give the other side of a question.

1. Complete the text with *and*, *but*, or.

I get up at half past eight in the morning. I'm hungry _____ there isn't any food in the kitchen. I want milk, cereals _____ orange juice. Then, I go to the shop _____ when I get there it's still closed. I go back home and into the kitchen. There's some grapefruit juice and brown bread _____ I don't like grapefruit juice _____ brown bread! This is not a good morning, so I go back to bed until the shop opens.

2. Read the following text and complete with the correct linking word:

However - Because - But (x2) - For example - On the other hand - And

Challenges of home learning during a pandemic through the eyes of a student

The COVID-19 pandemic took the world by surprise.

Globally, everything has stopped. **1)** _____, projects have been delayed, workplaces closed and schools shut down. The world seems to have ground to a halt because of the novel coronavirus.

2) _____, students continue their education through online learning and via video calls with their teachers. The model is currently the best alternative as keeping schools open poses a safety risk for students.

Many countries have adopted this approach. Schools in New York, the United States, prepared for online learning by distributing gadgets to their students, ensuring they had access to learning materials. As of early April, education authorities distributed around 500,000 laptops and tablets to their students, allowing them to participate in classes online.

3) _____ others schools were not ready to apply home learning programs yet

4) _____ of the lack of preparation of the educational system.

5) _____ students reported the home-learning program to be even more stressful than regular classrooms. Some of the common reasons for this went along the lines of:

"Normal classes may have been difficult, **6)** _____ having friends makes it so much more manageable and less stressful. Online classes take out the benefits of having friends to socialize with **7)** _____ being stuck alone with nothing but assignments."