

Linking ideas

Contrast	Although / Even though environmental problems are overwhelming, there is hope. Some people water their lawns daily in spite of / despite drought warnings.
Reason	Climates are changing because of / as a result of / due to global warming. Carbon dioxide levels are increasing because we are burning oil, coal, and gas.
Purpose	Turn down the air-conditioning (in order) to save electricity. Recycle garbage so (that) it doesn't end up in a landfill.
Alternative	Use public transportation instead of driving your car. Take showers instead of baths.

Notice:

in order to / to + verb

although / even though / because / so that / so + clause

in spite of / despite / because of / as a result of / due to / instead of + noun (or verb + -ing)

A Link the ideas in these sentences using expressions from the grammar chart. How many ways can you complete each sentence? Compare with a partner.

1. Even though / Although there are a lot of environmental problems, the situation isn't hopeless.
2. It's better to use everyday items to clean your home _____ buying expensive cleaning products. For example, you can use vinegar to clean your mirrors _____ toxic chemicals.
3. _____ cut down on the paper you use, get all your bills delivered online.
4. A lot of vegetables from local areas are being sold in stores _____ consumer pressure. This is good _____ it supports local farmers and cuts down on transportation.
5. A lot of areas are being affected by air pollution _____ efforts to improve air quality. Ride a bicycle or walk _____ using the car. Or, if you buy a new car, get a hybrid vehicle _____ you can save on gas.
6. If you buy bottled water, make sure the bottle is biodegradable _____ you can prevent buildup in landfills.
7. There is more solar and wind power now _____ advances in technology. However, _____ recent advances, they're not being used as widely as they could be by consumers.
8. _____ we need to preserve our natural resources, we also need to use oil and gas for energy.