GLT1021: PTG WEEK 7

What are Cohesive Devices

Cohesive devices (also called linking words, linkers, connectors, transition words/phrases, discourse markers) are words or phrases that **link ideas, sentences, or paragraphs** to each other. They help a text "***stick together***," guiding the reader through the relationships between ideas: addition, contrast, cause-and-effect, examples, time sequence, conclusions, etc.

Without cohesive devices, writing (or speech) can feel choppy, disjointed, or confusing, especially in longer texts such as essays or reports. With them, the flow becomes smoother and the logic becomes clearer.

Some Common Types & Examples

Function / Type	Examples
Addition / further information	and, moreover, furthermore, in addition, also
Contrast / contradiction / but opposite ideas	but, however, although, on the other hand, nevertheless, despite, yet
Cause & Effect / Result	because, therefore, as a result, so, thus, consequently
Examples / illustration	for example, for instance, such as, to illustrate
Sequencing / ordering / time	first(ly), next, then, finally, meanwhile, subsequently
Conclusion / summary / drawing a result	in conclusion, to sum up, finally, therefore

SECTION A: Fill in the Blanks — Using Cohesive Devices

Instructions: Read each paragraph. Fill each blank with a suitable cohesive device (linking word or phrase) that makes the paragraph coherent. Use your knowledge of addition, contrast, cause/effect, examples, sequencing, etc.

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Paragraph 1

Benefits of Study Groups

Study groups offer a range of advantages for university students. They allow members to discuss complex topics together. ____1____, this collaborative environment helps learners clarify misunderstandings more quickly than when studying alone. Some students feel more confident sharing ideas in small groups. ____2____, the sense of support encourages them to participate more actively. Study groups can become unproductive if members arrive unprepared. ____3____, setting ground rules and rotating leadership roles can improve group efficiency. ____4____, students who engage in well-structured group study often perform better and retain information longer.

Questions

1. Which cohesive device best fits Blank 1?
a. For instance
b. Likewise
c. As a result
d. Nevertheless

2. Which cohesive device best fits Blank 2?
a. In other words
b. Similarly
c. Yet
d. To illustrate

3. Which cohesive device best fits Blank 3?
a. Nevertheless
b. In addition
c. For example
d. Therefore

4. Which cohesive device best fits Blank 4?
a. Meanwhile
b. In addition
c. Finally
d. As a result

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Paragraph 2

Digital Wellbeing Among Students

Digital wellbeing has become a major concern among educators and parents. Excessive screen time has been linked to sleep issues, and ____1____ many young people report difficulty concentrating in school. ____2____ these challenges, digital media continues to play an essential role in education, communication, and entertainment. Schools have introduced guidelines to promote healthier online habits. ____3____, some students still struggle to manage their device usage effectively. ____4____, experts suggest combining parental monitoring with awareness programmes to address the issue more comprehensively.

Questions

5. Which cohesive device best fits Blank 1?
a. in addition
b. moreover
c. even though
d. consequently

6. Which cohesive device best fits Blank 2?
a. Nevertheless
b. Therefore
c. Despite
d. Moreover

7. Which cohesive device best fits Blank 3?
a. Yet
b. In addition
c. Therefore
d. Even though

8. Which cohesive device best fits Blank 4?
a. Consequently
b. Nevertheless
c. Although
d. Moreover

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SECTION B: Reading Comprehension

Refresher Before You Read

- **Pronouns:** Words like *he, she, it, they, him, his* usually refer back to a noun mentioned earlier.
- **Main idea:** Look for the central idea of a paragraph, often in the first or last sentence.
- **Supporting details:** Facts, examples, or events that explain or give evidence for the main idea.
- **Contextual Clues:** Check surrounding words for meaning clues.

Reading Text:

From Garage Startup to Global Empire

1. Born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on January 12, 1964, Jeff Bezos is widely known as the founder of Amazon.com and one of the most influential business leaders of his generation. From modest beginnings, Bezos transformed Amazon from a small online bookstore into a global e-commerce and technology powerhouse.
2. Bezos's early life was shaped by unique family circumstances. His mother was a teenager when he was born, and his biological father soon left the picture. She later married Miguel Bezos, a Cuban immigrant who adopted Jeff when he was four. Growing up, Jeff showed a strong curiosity for science and technology, often experimenting and building projects that reflected his early interest in invention.
3. During his teenage years, Bezos demonstrated entrepreneurial initiative by co-founding an educational summer camp for younger students called the Dream Institute. This early venture reflected his creativity, leadership, and interest in learning, laying the foundation for his future ambitions.
4. After graduating as high school valedictorian, Bezos went on to study electrical engineering and computer science at Princeton University, where he graduated summa cum laude in 1986. He then worked at several firms, eventually joining the investment company D. E. Shaw & Co., where he gained valuable experience in finance and computer systems.
5. In 1994, recognizing the rapid growth of the Internet, Bezos decided to start his own company. He moved to Seattle and launched Amazon.com from a rented

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garage, initially focusing on selling books online. His long-term vision and willingness to take risks helped Amazon grow rapidly in its early years.

6. Over the next two decades, Amazon expanded into cloud computing, streaming services, artificial intelligence, and a wide range of consumer products. Under Bezos's leadership, the company became one of the most valuable and influential in the world, though it also faced criticism over competition and labor practices.

7. Today, Jeff Bezos is known not only for his business achievements but also for his investments and philanthropy. His ventures, including the aerospace company Blue Origin, reflect his commitment to innovation and future-focused thinking. His journey highlights the importance of curiosity, determination, and bold vision in shaping global impact.

Questions

1. In paragraph 1, the word **'his'** in "his generation" refers to:
   a) Amazon
   b) Jeff Bezos
   c) Miguel Bezos
   d) Internet users

2. Which sentence best summarizes **paragraph 3**?
   a) Jeff co-founded an educational summer camp that reflected his early creativity.
   b) Jeff attended Princeton University to study engineering.
   c) Jeff launched Amazon from a rented garage.
   d) Jeff donated money to climate initiatives.

3. Name **TWO** professional experiences Jeff Bezos had after graduating from Princeton University (paragraph 4).

   a) _____

   b) _____

4. In paragraph 7, the word **'ventures'** is closest in meaning to:
   a) charitable donations
   b) risky journeys with uncertain outcomes
   c) new business projects or undertakings
   d) technological tools

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5. Name **TWO** major expansions Amazon underwent under Bezos's leadership (paragraph 6).

   a) _____

   b) _____

6. According to paragraph 5, what motivated Jeff to start Amazon?
   a) He wanted to move closer to his parents.
   b) He graduated from high school.
   c) He wanted to open a summer camp.
   d) He noticed the rapid growth of the Internet.

7. Which phrase from paragraph 7 shows Bezos's work **beyond business**?
   a) He experimented with science and technology
   b) He donated to climate change and education
   c) He expanded Amazon's online marketplace
   d) He launched Amazon from his garage

8. In paragraph 6, the word **"it"** in the phrase "though it also faced criticism over competition and labor practices" refers to:
   a) Jeff Bezos
   b) Blue Origin
   c) Amazon
   d) Cloud computing

9. Jeff Bezos is portrayed as more than just a businessman because he:
   a) explores space, engages in philanthropy, and pursues innovation
   b) only focuses on selling books
   c) avoids public attention
   d) concentrates solely on financial success

10. What is the **main purpose** of the passage?
    a) To explain the history of e-commerce
    b) To describe Bezos's life and achievements
    c) To compare Amazon with other companies
    d) To discuss his childhood only

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True or False:

11.	Jeff Bezos started Amazon while he was still in high school.	[True / False]
12.	Bezos's early curiosity for science and technology is highlighted in the passage.	[True / False]
13.	Amazon originally sold books online.	[True / False]
14.	Bezos has faced no challenges in his career.	[True / False]
15.	Bezos's philanthropy includes donations to climate change and education.	[True / False]

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