● Connectives

A **connective** is a word or phrase that links clauses within a sentence or links sentences within a text. There are different types of connectives: **subordinate conjunctions** (see page 22) and **connecting adverbs**, such as **however, then** and **therefore**.

Connecting adverbs

Connecting adverbs help to bring a whole text together, and help it to flow smoothly. They do this in several different ways:

- By explaining a point, as in: **for instance, for example** and **in other words** For example, 'I eat a lot of chocolate. **For instance**, I can eat a whole bar of chocolate before breakfast!'

- By adding a point or making a point stronger, as in: **also, furthermore, in particular, besides, anyway, after all** and **apart from**. For example, 'I eat a lot of chocolate. **After all**, they say that chocolate is good for you!'

- By showing cause and effect, as in: **therefore, consequently** and **as a result**. For example, 'I do a lot of exercise. **Consequently**, I am fit and healthy.'

- By showing time, as in: **after, as soon as, while, afterwards, meanwhile, eventually, just then, later** and **finally**. For example, 'I ran a marathon at the weekend. **Afterwards**, I was exhausted – but very happy!'

- By ordering a list, as in: **firstly, first of all, secondly, next, after** and **finally**. For example: '**First of all**, dig the holes. **Next**, plant the seeds and, **after that**, refill the holes with soil. **Finally**, water the seeds regularly and wait for them to grow into plants.'

- By comparing ideas that are similar, as in: **as with, equally, like** and **similarly**. For example, 'I love going swimming. **Equally**, I love playing in the park!'

- By showing opposite ideas, as in: **alternatively, however, instead of, nevertheless, on the other hand, otherwise, unlike** and **whereas**. For example, 'I love going swimming. **However**, I don't like cycling.'

Take note!

Usually, commas are used after connecting adverbs. However, a comma is not needed after **after, as soon as, while, as with, like, instead of, unlike** and **whereas**.

Over to You!

1 Complete the text using the connective adverbs below.

for instance   finally   first of all   furthermore

Looking after a pet is a big responsibility. **1** _____ , you must make

sure that it has food and water every day. **2** _____ , some animals

need a lot of space. **3** _____ , a horse needs a field and a stable.

4 _____ , it is a big financial commitment.   [2]

2 Complete the text with connective adverbs that show cause and effect.

More young people are spending their free time in front of a screen.

1 _____ , they are playing outdoors less and less. **2** _____ ,

they aren't getting exercise and, **3** _____ , they aren't as healthy.   [1]

3 Complete the text with connective adverbs that show time.

1 _____ we arrived at the campsite, we unloaded the car.

2 _____ Natalie went to fetch water, mum and I put up the tent.

Natalie and I went to explore the woods nearby **3** _____ mum cooked.

4 _____ an hour, we realised that we were lost! **5** _____ , we

heard mum calling us. We were so relieved! **6** _____ dinner, we played

cards and, _____ , got into our sleeping bags, ready for bed.   [3]

4 Complete the text with connective adverbs that show opposite ideas.

My parents love going on sightseeing holidays. **1** _____ , I prefer

beach holidays. **2** _____ walking around old buildings, I enjoy playing

in the sea. **3** _____ , I love playing on the beach. **4** _____ ,

I would prefer to go on a sightseeing holiday than not go on holiday at all!   [2]

5 Add commas to the text.

My pet mouse died last week. Consequently I would like another pet – maybe
something different. My best friend has just got a dog. Unfortunately my mum
doesn't want a dog in the house. Also you have to take a dog out for walks a lot.
What if it's raining?! Anyway a dog is out of the question. Maybe I'll just get
another mouse!   [2]