

TASK TWO: LINKERS & SUBORDINATE CLAUSES

Linkers are words or phrases that join ideas in the same sentence or ideas in two different sentences or paragraphs; this links together ideas in a logical way and makes it easier for the examiner to read.

A] Some linkers are used to show an **unexpected** or **opposite idea** or **result** to the preceding sentence or paragraph:

Example 1 – in the same sentence: ***Although** he is wealthy, he doesn't wear expensive clothes. **While** go on a crash diet will enable you to lose weight quickly, in the long term you'll actually put on weight.*

Example 2. – in different sentences: *Money can't buy happiness. **However**, having enough money makes someone's life comfortable.*

B] Some linkers are used to **give reasons** to **support** an argument or idea in the preceding sentence or paragraph:

Example 3. ***In addition**, ... **furthermore**, ... **also**, ... **It is also true that...**, **similarly**,... **moreover**,...*

*Cigarettes are very bad, their smoke smells very bad. **In addition**, they make the smoker's breath and clothes smell awful. **Furthermore**, smoking is dangerous and can lead to lung cancer and heart disease.*

B] Some linkers are used to give additional **REASONS AGAINST** something in a discursive essay, which you'd write in Task 2.

Example 4. ***However**, **In spite of this**, **although** **On the contrary**, **Nevertheless**,*

*Many countries have compulsory military service; this means that all male citizens are trained as soldiers. **In spite of this**, people doing military service aren't trained like regular soldiers and don't want to do this.*

*Some people think that using electronic belts will reduce fat around their bellies. **On the contrary**, these belts are completely ineffective in getting rid of body fat.*

DON'T USE **Firstly**, **Secondly**, **Thirdly**, and so on in this kind of discussion essay. You can use these in Task 1 of the writing task when you are asked to interpret a diagram involving a process like the procedure for getting a driving license.

Join these simple sentences using '**although**', '**However**', '**In addition**', '**Furthermore**,' '**In spite of this**,' '**On the contrary**,' '**Nevertheless**. Don't forget to put **COMMAS** (,) after the linker.

1) *The library has many books. It's too noisy to study there.*

2) *The food in that restaurant is delicious. The service is very slow.*

3) *My hotel room has a beautiful sea view. It's right next to the beach.*

4) *Some students study all night to prepare for an exam the following day. These students usually hardly remember anything of what they studied.*

5) *Learning a musical instrument well is very difficult. It's a wonderful and relaxing hobby.*

6) *Ras Al Khaimah is a small town with few malls or cinemas. It's a very quiet and peaceful place.*

7) *Travelling on a package holiday means you don't have to organize how you will travel. You don't have to arrange where you'll stay.*

8) *On a package holiday, you don't have to arrange your transportation. You don't have to arrange your hotels.*

INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH - EXAMPLE

There are many products on the market that can help people to lose weight, such as a special green tea. **However, slimming tea is bad for people with certain kinds of heart condition, as it can speed up heart rate. **Although** people using slimming tea products can lose a few pounds initially these products cause dehydration or loss of fluid from the body. Diet Coke, Pepsi Max, Sprite Zero are calorie free, which should help people lose weight and prevent sugar-related diseases like metabolic syndrome and diabetes. **In spite of this**, the evidence for these beverages having any benefits for health or weight loss is completely nonexistent.*

Now write an introductory paragraph like the *above example in answer to ONE of the three questions below. Remember to use at least THREE LINKERS:

1. *The Benefits and Risks of Alternative Medicine: Examine the use of alternative therapies such as acupuncture, herbal medicine, and meditation in treating health conditions. Give reasons for your answer.*
2. *The Role of Technology in Healthcare: Examine the impact of technology on healthcare, including telemedicine, health apps, and electronic health records.*
3. *Has any real progress been made in the treatment of cancer over the last ten years? If so, how, in what way(s)? If not, why not?*

POSSIBLE ANSWERS

- 1) **Although** the library has many books, it's too noisy to study there. The library has many books. However, it's too noisy to study there. **While** the library has many books, it's too noisy to study there.
- 2) The food in that restaurant is delicious. **In spite of this, / However, / Nevertheless,** the service is very slow.
- 3) My hotel room has a beautiful view of the sea. **Furthermore, / In addition, / Moreover,** it's right next to the beach.
- 4) Some students study all night to prepare for an exam the following day. **However, / In spite of this, / Nevertheless,** these students usually hardly remember anything of what they studied.
- 5) Learning a musical instrument well is very difficult. **In spite of this, / However, / Nevertheless,** it's a wonderful and relaxing hobby.
- 6) **Although** Ras Al Khaimah is a small town with few malls or cinemas, it's a very quiet and peaceful place.
- 7) On a package holiday, you don't have to arrange your transportation. **Furthermore, / In addition, / Moreover,** you don't have to arrange your hotels.
- 8) On a package holiday, you don't have to arrange anything. **However, / In spite of this, / Nevertheless,** you can't choose which places you'll visit or how long you'll stay.