Level 3 Writing: Linking Words & Phrases for Paragraphs

Linking words and phrases do exactly what they say they do — link ideas. We use them within paragraphs or between paragraphs to help our writing make sense.

Using linking words and phrases within paragraphs makes your writing flow better. Your meaning is clearer because your reader isn't having to stop and start the flow with every sentence.

It's also important to use linking words and phrases between paragraphs. Doing this links the point of your new paragraph back to the ones before it. Your writing is stronger because each point flows into the next one and your reader isn't left wondering why you changed the topic.

Identify Linking Words and Phrases

Grab a highlighter, coloured pencil or pen, and highlight the linking words and phrases within the paragraph below:

The scorching hot sun beat down on the paving stones weaving through the garden. As the sun shone, the wind danced lazily through the top tendrils of the hollyhocks and sweetpeas. As a result, the wind carried a delicate perfume — the smell of summer. While nature played, the children frolicked by the small pond at the end of the garden. However, the frogs that lived in that pond were less-than-excited by the noise and disruption the children brought. Nevertheless, for everyone in the garden, it was a perfect summer's day.

Choose Linking Words and Phrases

For each of the purposes below, give an example of a linking word or phrase that could be used to suit that purpose:

1. To list ideas in order: _____

2. To give an example: _____

3. To contrast points: _____

4. To compare points: _____

5. To give a result: _____

6. To highlight a point: _____

7. To acknowledge a different point: _____

Understand Linking Words and Phrases

Answer the questions below to show your understanding of linking words and phrases:

1. Why should you use a linking word or phrase?

_____

_____

_____

2. What is the effect of using linking words and phrases in your writing?

_____

_____

_____

3. You can use a linking word or phrase _____ a paragraph or _____ paragraphs.