

ENGLISH

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MATTERS

ESSENTIAL LINKING WORDS



DODATEK

ENGLISH MATTERS

Language Guide poradnik językowy

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the world of English linking words! This time *English Matters* is going to equip you with practical knowledge regarding the use of linking words. Honestly, who hasn't found them a tough nut to crack? Is in spite followed by of, or not? Can although be interchangeably used with even though? What words are synonymous with the overfamiliar but? Read our latest guide, and become a linking word expert!

linking word | słowo łączące

regarding sth | odnośnie do czegoś

tough nut to crack *tʌf nʌt tə kræk* | twardy orzech do zgryzienia

interchangeably | wymiennie, zamiennie

synonymous *sɪˈnɒnɪməs / sɪˈnɑːnɪməs* | równoznaczny; synonimiczny, bliskoznaczny

overfamiliar | *tu*: oklepany, opatrzony

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Clauses of contrast

Linking words of contrast – we use them in a sentence in order to express a contrast. These are:

- but,
- although/even though/though,
- in spite of/despite,
- however,
- while/whereas,
- yet,
- nevertheless,
- on the other hand.

But seems to be the most common linking word that shows contrast. Its use in a sentence is quite simple, for example:

- *Sarah wasn't happy, but she did not show it.*
- *We wanted to go to the museum, but it was closed.*

Although/Even though/Though are followed by a clause. They are used in the following ways:

- *Although/Even though/Though it was winter, it was quite warm.*
- *It was quite warm although/even though/though it was winter.*
- *It was winter. It was quite warm, though.*

The linking word *though* can be used at the end of a sentence.

- *In spite of/despite* is followed by a noun, or an – ing form, for instance:
- *In spite of/Despite his poor knowledge, he passed the final test.*
- *In spite of/Despite being unprepared, he passed the final test.*

It is also possible to add a clause to *despite* or *in spite of* by adding the fact that and a clause, for instance:

- *Despite/In spite of the fact that he had not learnt, he managed to pass the final test.*
- *In spite of/Despite the fact that he was shy, he chatted her up at the pub.*

Bear in mind that 'despite of' is a very common error that should be avoided.

However/Nevertheless are close in meaning to *but*, but they are more formal. They are always followed by a comma, for example:

in order to | aby, żeby
although/even though/though | chociaż, choć
in spite of/despite | po/mimo
however | jednak/że
while/whereas | podczas gdy
nevertheless | niemniej jednak
on the other hand | z drugiej strony
to seem | wydawać się
common | powszechny
to pass sth | *tu*: zdawać coś
to manage to do sth | po/radzić sobie ze zrobieniem czegoś
to chat sb up | *BrE pot.* flirtować z kimś, podrywać kogoś
to bear sth in mind | mieć coś na uwadze

- Sophie has been unemployed for months, however, she turned down the latest job offer – it was below her expectations.
- She really wanted to see Mike, however, she kept up the pretence that she did not care.

While/whereas – they both mean the same when it comes to expressing contrast, for example:

- John is an intelligent guy, *whereas/while* Bob is hilarious.
- While Angie enjoys horse-riding, Bill likes swimming.

Please note that whereas means the same as while in showing contrasts, but it does not mean the same when it comes to referring to time:

- Julian made some remarks about my project *while* I was away from the office (it is not possible to use *whereas* in this case).

Yet/still – their meaning is close to but, for example:

- My refrigerator is old. *Still*, its condition is good.
- Rebecca's had a car crash – the damage was huge, *yet* nothing serious happened to her.
- *On the other hand* is used to show two opposite opinions/points of view, for instance:
- Sam isn't a very musical person. *On the other hand*, he is good at playing football.

Exercise 1

Choose the correct alternative.

1. In spite of/Although having plenty of money, they are very mean.
2. Bill enjoys reading fantasy books, whereas/despite Sheila loves detective stories.
3. Henry lost the last match, yet/while he did not give up.
4. I wouldn't recommend this idea, however/despite, some people may find it appealing.
5. Peter did not see any point in filing a complaint although/in spite of his wife wanted him to do so.

unemployed | „anim'plɔɪd | niezatrudniony, bezrobotny

to turn sth down | odrzucić coś

expectation | oczekiwanie

to keep up the pretence | udawać, stwarzać pozory

to care | *tu*: zależeć (komuś na czymś), przejmować się czymś

hilarious | wesoły, pocieszny

remark | uwaga

refrigerator | lodówka

damage | szkoda

appealing | atrakcyjny

complaint | skarga, zażalenie

Exercise 2

Transform the sentences using the word in **bold**.

1. Although they were good classmates, they argued a lot.

In spite of

2. Even though he met the deadline, his work did not meet his bosses' requirements.

Despite

3. Stephen wished Eric well, whereas Betty was jealous of his success.

..... **but**

Answers

Ex 1: In spite of, whereas, yet, however, although.
 Ex 2: In spite of being good classmates, they argued a lot./Despite meeting the deadline, his work did not meet his bosses' requirements or Despite the fact that he met the deadline, his work did not meet his bosses' requirements or Stephen wished Eric well, but Betty was jealous of his success.

Clauses of result

Clauses of result, as the name suggests, express result of something. These are:

- as a result,
- therefore,
- consequently/as a consequence,
- so
- so/such...that.

As a result/Therefore/Consequently are used in the following ways:

- Our boss went down with the flu, as a result/therefore/consequently the meeting was called off.
- Our boss went down with the flu. As a result/therefore/consequently, the meeting was called off.

So is probably the most common linking word of result, for example:

- It was cold, so I decided to put on my winter coat.

classmate | kolega z klasy

to argue | kłócić się

to meet the deadline | wyrobić się na czas

requirement | wymóg

jealous of sth | zazdrośny o coś

to go down with sth | zachorować na coś

flu | grypa

called off | odwołany

- John was disappointed about his performance, so the entire evening he was sad.

Such a/an is followed by an adjective+plural/uncountable noun, for instance:

- They are such good students that they've never failed an exam.
- It was such exciting news that Jenny couldn't fall asleep.

Such a lot of is followed by a plural/uncountable noun, for example:

- There were such a lot of people at the concert that it was difficult to breathe.
- She has such a lot of expensive jewellery that it needs to be kept in a safe.

So + adjective/adverb:

- Susannah is so beautiful that she could be a model.
- He does this task so quickly that he leaves everyone behind.

Exercise 3

Fill in the gaps with so, such, such a/an.

- George is intriguing person that I would like to get to know him.
- It was loud that I couldn't hear her.
- It was late when I got home that I brushed my teeth, and went to bed straight away.
- Amy and Jill were good friends that their small argument surprised everyone at the party.

Answers: such a/an, so, so, such.

Clauses of reason

Clauses of reason are introduced with the following expressions/words:

- because,
- as/since,
- the reason why/for,
- for,
- because of/on account of/due to.

Because seems to be the most popular linking word of reason. Usually no comma is used before because in a sentence:

- I decided to take a taxi because I was already late.
- Because I was already late, I decided to take a taxi.
- As/since are synonymous with because, for instance:
- She reprimanded Sarah as she had been misbehaving.

disappointed about sth | rozczarowany czymś

to fail sth | tu: nie zdać czegoś, oblać coś

to fall asleep | zasypiać

jewellery 'dʒu:əlri | biżuteria

argument | spór, kłótnia

because of/on account of/due to sth | z powodu czegoś

to misbehave | źle się zachowywać

For is also close in meaning with because, but it is rather used in formal written register. What is more, a clause of reason that starts with for always comes after the main clause, for example:

- *The voters supporting Hillary Clinton were devastated, for it was Donald Trump that won the latest presidential election in the United States.*

The reason for is followed by a noun or gerund, for instance:

- *The reason for her sadness was (the fact) that she had lost her money.*
- *The fact that she had lost her money was the reason for her sadness.*

The reason why is followed by a clause:

- *My supervisor's management style was the reason why I decided to look for another job.*
- *The reason why I decided to look for another job was my supervisor's management style.*

Because of/ On account of/Due to are followed by a noun, for instance:

- *My flight to Madrid was cancelled because of/on account of/due to the thick fog.*
- *She almost lost her temper because of/on account of/due to the false accusations.*

It is also possible to add a clause to because of/on account of/due to by adding the fact that and a clause, for instance:

- *He asked for a pay rise due to the fact that his project had brought the company measurable benefits.*
- *Mary wanted to learn Spanish on account of the fact that she was planning to go to Barcelona.*

Exercise 4

Rewrite the sentences using the word in **bold**.

- Sally did not want to go to the party. Her ex-boyfriend was supposed to be there with his new sweetheart.

due to

- Sally did not want to go to the party

- Sarah refused to eat dinner. She did not eat meat.

because

- Sarah refused to eat dinner

- She decided to attend aerobics classes. She needed to lose weight.

reason why

- to attend aerobics classes was the fact that she needed to lose weight.

voter | głosujący

devastated | zdruzgotany

supervisor | przełożony

flight | lot

thick | tu: gęsty

fog | mgła

to lose one's temper | zostać

wytrąconym

z równowagi, stracić cierpliwość

accusation | oskarżenie

pay rise | podwyżka

measurable | wymierny

to refuse | odmawiać

to attend sth | uczyć się na coś

weight | waga

Answers: /Sally did not want to go to the party due to the fact that her ex-boyfriend was supposed to be there with his new sweetheart./Sarah refused to eat dinner because she did not eat meat./The reason why she decided to attend aerobics classes was the fact that she needed to lose weight.

Clauses of purpose

Clauses of purpose are used to show the aim of an action.

What linking words of purpose are there? There are a few of them, namely:

to,

- in order to/so as to,
- so that/in order that,
- in case,
- for.

To is followed by an infinitive:

- *She wanted to talk to Steve to clarify any ambiguities.*
- *I went there to find out what had happened with my car.*

In order to/so as to are close in meaning to to, but they are more formal:

- *She took part in a few reputed conferences in order to broaden her knowledge of environmental issues.*
- *David did not make any remarks so as not to offend anyone.*

So that can be followed by can/will (in sentences that refer to the present or future), or could/would (in sentences that refer to the past), for example:

- *Eric has bought a travel card so that he can commute without any problems.*
- *He bought a travel card so that he could commute without any problems.*

In case + present tense is used in sentences that express the present or future, whereas in case + past tense is used in sentences that express the past, for example:

- *Take an umbrella in case it rains.*
- *He took an umbrella in case it rained.*

Please note that 'in case' is never followed by will or would.

For + noun, for example:

- *He went to the mechanic for a quick vehicle check-up.*

For + ing (to express the purpose of function):

- *We used a saw for cutting the wood.*

namely | a mianowicie

ambiguity | niejasność

to offend sb | obrażać kogoś

to commute | dojeżdżać do pracy/szkoły

check-up | przegląd

saw | piła

Exercise 5

Correct the mistake in each sentence.

- We used a spade to digging.
- I took a jumper in case it would get cold.
- Mary took out a loan so that she can buy a car.
- She did her work on time as so not to be late.

Answers: for digging, got cold, so that she could, so as not to be.

Clauses of manner

Clauses of manner are used to express the way in which something is done.

The expressions as if/though are used after the following verbs sound, taste, smell, appear, seem, look, feel, behave, be, act to say how something tastes, smells, etc.

Examples:

- *He is acting as if/though he's been given some good news.*

The expressions as if/though are used with past tenses when we want to talk about hypothetical, unreal present situation, for example:

- *She behaves as if/though she won the lottery!*
- *Sarah behaves as if/though she had all the answers.*

Exercise 6

Put the verbs in brackets in the correct tense.

She did not make any contact with people at the party. She looked as though she
(be) lost.

Dave was really dirty. He looked as though he (repair) his old car.

Jill has only just learned how to drive, but she behaves as though she
(drive) for years.

Answers 1 was, 2 had been repairing, has been driving/has driven.

spade | szpadeł, łopata

digging | kopanie

jumper | bluza, sweter

loan | pożyczka

to appear | wyglądać, wydawać się

to behave | zachowywać się

Linking words of addition

The following linking words are used to add some ideas to what we want to say or write:

- furthermore, for example, *Susannah is really intelligent. Furthermore, she is a very beautiful woman.*
- moreover, for example, *We have to be really careful when making decisions. Moreover, we need more time to think all the options through.*
- in addition to/additionally, for example, *We bought a new car. Additionally, we are thinking of moving to a bigger flat.*
- as well as this, for example, *As well as this favourable feedback, we also want to draw your attention to some mistakes you've made in your report.*
- besides/besides this, for instance, *Besides, the cost of not having her on our side might be really painful for us.*

Common mistakes when using linking words

- *She called a taxi not to be late.* Incorrect
- *She called a taxi so as not to be late.* Correct

- *Despite the bad weather, we took a walk through the park.* Correct
- *Despite of the bad weather, we took a walk through the park.* Incorrect

- *Although he was rich, he was constantly unhappy.* Correct
- *Although being rich, he was constantly unhappy.* Incorrect

- *On the one hand, she is nice, but on the second hand, she can be really mean.* Incorrect
- *On the one hand, she is nice, but on the other hand, she can be really mean.* Correct

- *I was playing football in bad weather, in a result I got a cold.* Incorrect
- *I was playing football in bad weather, as a result I got a cold.* Correct

- *I have changed my travel arrangements so that I can go to Munich next month.* Correct
- *I have changed my travel arrangements so that I would go to Munich next month.* Incorrect

- *Take a hat in case it will snow.* Incorrect
- *Take a hat in case it snows.* Correct

furthermore | ponadto
moreover | ponadto
in addition to/additionally
 | na dodatek/dodatkowo
flat | mieszkanie
as well as this | oprócz tego

feedback | informacja
 zwrotna
to draw one's attention to
sth tə drɔ: wʌnz ə'tenʃn tə
 'sʌmθɪŋ | zwrócić czyjś
 uwagę na coś

besides/besides this | poza
 tym
on the second hand |
 z drugiej strony
mean | wredny, złośliwy
arrangement | ustalenie

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