

Linking Phrases

The following words, phrases and expressions are examples of *some* of the *cohesive devices* or *discourse markers* that you should make use of, where suitable, in the appropriate paragraphs of your essay in order to *signal* to the examiner the various component parts of your essay. These devices, and other similar ones you can think of for yourself, make it easier for the examiner to identify the aspects of your essay relevant to the **marking criteria**. These examples are not exclusive and there are enough choices and variations for you to avoid repetition.

Introduction Phrases:

Phrases to interpret the question

This question seems to refer / refers to (the fact that) ...

At first glance, this question appears to relate to (the idea that) ...

In the quotation above, [author] seems / appears to be implying / suggesting that ...

According to the question, [author] seems / appears to imply / suggest that ...

It would seem / appear that this question focuses on (the idea that) ...

Phrases to develop your answer

Whilst this may be true / applicable / appropriate / a valid argument in certain cases ...

Although this may seem obvious / debatable / acceptable / extreme to a certain extent ...

... in order to answer the question fully, it is necessary to consider ...

... there appear to be other factors involved which should be considered, such as ...

... on deeper reflection, it is necessary to analyse / examine / consider / take a closer look at ...

... in arriving at a possible answer, there are several aspects / factors to consider, such as ...

Phrases to answer the question / sum up a point

Therefore, / Consequently, / In fact, / In other words, / it seems / appears that ...

Main Body Phrases:

Topic Sentences used to introduce your point

Initially, ... First of all, ... In the first place, ... To begin with, (probably / arguably) the most important / significant one of the most important / significant one obviously important / significant ...	factor is ... aspect is ... consideration is ... element is ... variable is ...
Secondly, ... Furthermore, ... Moreover, ... In addition, ... Additionally, ... Finally	... an (equally) important / significant another relevant / important / significant / meaningful one more important / significant / meaningful ...	

Phrases used to develop an idea related to the same point

Also, What's more, On top of this, ... As well as this, there is the fact that it seems / appears that it should be noted that it is possible that ...
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Phrases used to introduce an example

For example, (if we) imagine being / having / doing ...
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For instance, ... In particular, ... A good example might be ... An example can be seen ... Another example is with regard to Science / Maths / History / Perception / Emotion with reference to Science / Maths / History / Perception / Emotion in the area of knowledge / field of / way of knowing in ways of knowing such as reasoning / language / emotions
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Phrases used to introduce an example

This can be explained with reference to ...

The explanation for this may be that ...

The reason for this is that...

This is because ...

This is a result of ...

Phrases used to introduce Counter-claims:

On the other hand, ... In contrast, However, a <i>[person / specialist]</i> may / might / could believe / argue / claim that some <i>[people / specialists]</i> may / might / could say / argue / claim / that... ... it could be argued / claimed <i>[by some specialists]</i> that it is sometimes / often said / argued / claimed <i>[by some specialists]</i> that... ... someone with an alternative perspective / different culture may argue ...
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Phrases used to respond to Counter-claims:

However, in response ... Nevertheless, ... Nonetheless, it remains clear that despite (XYZ) it can still be argued that this argument is not entirely convincing because the weight of the evidence is against this position because while there seems to be some reason to feel (XYZ) I continue to believe (ABC) because while it may appear that (XYZ) I continue to believe (ABC) because it must be assumed that
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Phrases used to consider the factors that have influence someone's perspective

It seems that my ... Depending upon your ... It appears that a person's ...	<i>upbringing / culture experience / education beliefs / age / gender motives / reasoning</i>	.. has affected my perspective because your perspective may differ as, can affect their perspective by ...
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Conclusion Phrases:

Phrases used to summarise your findings

In conclusion To conclude From the above	it can be seen that it has been shown it would seem that	there are many there is a range of there are several	elements aspects / factors consideration	determining ... deciding ... involved in ...
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Phrases used to introduce assumptions and implications

Of course, this assumes that .../ a major assumption is that ... / this is assuming that ...

This seems to suggest / imply that ... The implication of this is that ... This means / implies that ...	we ought to ... we should ... we have to ...	be aware of ... consider ... bear in mind ...	If we wish to ... whenever we ... when attempting ...
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