

# Cohesive devices

**Cohesive devices**, sometimes called linking words, linkers, connectors, discourse markers or transitional words. **Cohesive Devices** are words or phrases that show the relationship between paragraphs or sections of a text or speech. **Cohesive devices** are words like 'For **example**', 'In conclusion', 'however' and 'moreover'.

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Let's look at these two examples below:

1. Netflix has many movies and shows **and** it is only \$9.
2. The Christmas tree is natural **but** it is expensive.

As we can see in the sentences above, **and** it is used to add something to the previous statement,

In the second sentence, we can see how something positive and negative is said about the christmas. We know that because the word **but** is used to contrast ideas.

## some examples of Cohesive Devices

There are many examples of cohesive devices, they can be grouped by category.

If you want so **show similarity**, you can use cohesive devices such as:

And	Equally
Also	Identically

Too	Equally
Similarly	

If you want to **introduce an item in a series**, you can use:

First	Then
In the first place	In addition
In the second place	Finally

If you need to compare, you can use cohesive devices such as:

But	However
Nevertheless	By comparison
Meanwhile	In contrast

For emphasizing, you can use cohesive devices such as:

In fact	Certainly
Absolutely	Obviously
Without any doubt	Definitely

# Different Types of Cohesion

**Cohesion** is the grammatical and lexical linking within a text or sentence that holds a text together and gives it meaning.

There are two main types of Cohesion, grammatical cohesion and lexical cohesion.

1. Grammatical cohesion, which is based on structural content.
2. Lexical cohesion, is based on lexical content and background knowledge

## Methods of Cohesion with Examples

### #1 Anaphoric Reference

Anaphoric Reference means that a word in a text refers back to other ideas in the text for its meaning.

For example:

‘I went out with Jo on Sunday. She looked awful.’ ‘She` clearly refers to Jo, there is no need to repeat her name.

### #2 Cataphoric References

**Cataphoric reference** means that a word in a text refers to another later in the text and you need to look forward to understand

For example:

When he arrived, John noticed that the door was open’.

### #3 Exophoric Reference

**Exophoric reference** refers to an idea outside the text. This is a reference to world knowledge shared by the reader

Example

” The Prime Minister responded quickly to the threat. Here we are expected to know who the Prime Minister is”

### #4 Tense Agreement

**Tense agreement** refers to the way that writers use tenses to make a text hang together

Example

“She knew then that he... “had found her letter” is a logical ending to the sentence. We are not surprised to see past perfect after simple past in a narrative sentence.”

## #5 Linkers

**Linkers** refers to words or phrases that describe the relationship between ideas in the text

Example

“And, but, therefore, first of all”

## #6 Substitution

**Substitution** or **Ellipsis** refers to replacing words, or leaving them out– this is how writers reduce repetition in a text

Example

“Now we’re finishing our essays. I know you want to go out, but before you can do that, please finish. ‘do that’ avoids a repetition of ‘go out’. Instead of repeating ‘finish our essays’ ‘our essays’ is dropped from the sentence”