

# Writing with proper cohesion and coherence

Paragraphs need to have a clear, central topic and be used logically.

Read more: [IELTS writing – coherence and cohesion explained | http://www.dcielts.com/ielts-writing/coherence-and-cohesion-grading/#ixzz4Kma6fAGk](http://www.dcielts.com/ielts-writing/coherence-and-cohesion-grading/#ixzz4Kma6fAGk)

Under Creative Commons License:  
[Attribution Non-Commercial No Derivatives](#)



- **Common mistake:** candidates do not develop their paragraphs and put together a series of unrelated points. One reason they do this is that they forget it is a language exam and not a knowledge exam. They select their best ideas and not the ideas that are easiest to write about.
- **Solution:** Make sure that each paragraph is about one idea. In the planning stage make sure you have enough to say about an idea before you start writing about it. This means that you may choose the ideas that are easiest to write about and not the ones that are the most intelligent.
- Another solution is to think of reasons and examples for each of your main points. Many candidates forget to use examples. This is a mistake because examples are often easier to write about than reasons. see [paragraph coherence](#).

# Logical organization of essay

- There needs to be a clear progression of ideas throughout the essay. This means that your paragraphs need to link in to each other.
- **Common mistake:** There is no overall plan for the essay and the paragraphs do not link in to each other.
- **Solution:** One solution is to make sure you state your position clearly in the introduction paragraph and make sure that each following paragraph links to that. Another solution is to focus on the first sentence in each paragraph and state clearly what the purpose of that paragraph is.

# Cohesive devices need to be used well

- This means that you need to link the parts of your sentences and your sentences together.
- **Common mistake:** to overuse linking words such as “so” “furthermore” “moreover”. It is not enough to use linking words, you need to use linking words correctly.
- **Solution:** Learn to use a range of linking words and phrases, not just a few. Also learn to do the simple things well; some of the best linking words are the simplest. “This” and other pronouns are excellent ways to link your writing together. See [cohesion and why it matters](#) for more detail.
-