

Identifying cohesive devices to understand the connection between ideas

Master the reading strategy!



What are cohesive devices?

- also known as linking words
- used to connect words in a sentence, sentences in a paragraph, and paragraphs in the whole passage

How can they help us understand the passage better?

- by making clear the relationship between different clauses, sentences and paragraphs
- by giving clues about the meanings of unknown words or phrases

Let's have a closer look!

Identify these words:	They are used for:
equally, similarly, likewise, in contrast...	Comparison A≈B
for example, for instance, such as, namely...	Exemplification A : A₁A₂A₃A₄...
in other words, that is to say, in simpler terms...	Reformulation CAB → ABC
in particular, mainly, especially...	Highlighting ABCD

Let's practise!

Good morning, everyone. On behalf of the chairman of Science Club, I would like to bring your attention to some alarming facts.

We all know that polar bears live in the Arctic. Their bodies are built for the harshly cold climate there. For instance, they have a thick layer of fat, which, as claimed by scientists, helps trap heat and prevent the heat from leaving the body. Their dense layer of white fur, equally important to them, provides additional insulation against the Arctic's coldness.

However, the amount of sea ice, which polar bears rely heavily upon in their habitat, has rapidly decreased in recent years due to global warming. In other words, they are in greater peril than ever. Science Club is therefore going to organise a series of activities to raise awareness particularly of how global warming is jeopardising wildlife and humanity. More details will be announced next Tuesday. Thank you!

According to the speech, what is Science Club going to address specifically?

'Specifically' is a word used for highlighting a reason or a purpose.