

Unit 10

Linking words II

Some passengers are inconsiderate. There are people standing. **However**, a lady puts her bag next to her. **Similarly**, a man isn't using earphones. **In short**, they live in their own selfish bubbles.



Grammar in Context

Theme: Personal social responsibility

Words by Theme



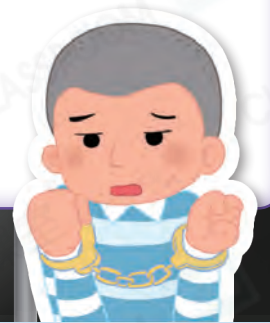
Read what the prisoner says and answer the questions.

My name is Bill. I'm an inmate¹. I've spent eight years in prison and I've decided to turn over a new leaf².

I grew up in a poor family. I didn't do well at school. I was always bouncing from one employer to another. I didn't try to hold down a job. I stole from my colleagues and **likewise** my employer to support my addiction³ to hard drugs.

During my time in prison, I reflect on⁴ my mistakes. I don't have much freedom, and **yet** I take every opportunity⁵ to learn new things. I'm learning Spanish. I've made some good friends too. **To a great extent**, we support and encourage one another. We work out every day. **On the whole**, we've become healthier.

In short, I'm a more positive person now. **To some extent**, I'm thankful⁶ for my time in prison. It's given me a chance to redirect my life⁷. **However**, I've promised myself I won't come back here again. I'll be a responsible⁸ person.



1. Look at the blue words. They are linking words. Answer the following questions.

- Linking word that is used to make a comparison: _____
- Linking words that have a similar meaning to *but*: _____ and _____
- Linking word that is used to give a summary: _____

2. Are the following statements correct? Tick () the correct box(es).

- Bill has decided to become a better person.
- Bill stayed at the same job for a long time before he went to jail.
- Bill is completely grateful for his imprisonment.

PART 1A Making comparisons

We can use *likewise* or *similarly* to compare two situations. They usually appear at the beginning of a sentence as sentence adverbs. We usually use *likewise* and *similarly* in more formal writing.

- The pizza is nice and crunchy. *Likewise*, the soup is creamy and satisfying.
- It is illegal to steal others' intellectual property. *Likewise*, infringing copyright on the Internet is a crime.
- The rents are very high in Hong Kong. *Similarly*, it is expensive to rent a flat in Tokyo.
- Overeating gives you extra pounds. *Similarly*, you can lose weight if you eat less.

PART 1B Making contrasts

The following linking words are used to introduce a distinctly different or an opposite idea.

<i>I followed the instructions,</i>	<i>but / (and) yet</i>	<i>I couldn't log in successfully.</i>
<i>I followed the instructions.</i>	<i>Yet,</i>	

We often put *however*, *nevertheless* and *on the contrary* at the beginning of a sentence. We add a comma after them.

= the opposite is true

		Surprising or unexpected ideas
<i>It is an excellent film.</i>	<i>However,</i>	<i>not many people have seen it.</i>
<i>Christina is a very talented painter.</i>	<i>Nevertheless,</i>	<i>she has given up making art.</i>
<i>My class teacher is not boring.</i>	<i>On the contrary,</i>	<i>he is quite funny sometimes.</i>

However and *nevertheless* can also come in mid position or end position.

<i>Leo is a top student.</i>	<i>His handwriting, however / nevertheless, is messy.</i>
<i>The book was written a century ago.</i>	<i>The plot amazes everyone, however.</i>
<i>The child watches the same clip again and again.</i>	<i>He finds it interesting nevertheless.</i>



Exercise 1.1

Rewrite the sentences using the given linking words.

1. Sally's cooking was terrible. Sally's family finished their plates. (... *Nevertheless* ...)

Sally's cooking was terrible. Nevertheless, her family finished their plates.

2. I am hard-working. I am not very imaginative. (... *but* ...)

3. The exhibition is interesting. There aren't many visitors. (... *but* ...)



More to take away

intellectual property (n.) = someone's idea, invention or creation that can be protected by law from being copied by someone else

4. Judy's calligraphy is outstanding. Judy's paintings are excellent. (... *Likewise* ...)

5. The Harry Potter series is very popular. Renee hasn't heard about the Harry Potter series. (... *yet* ...)

6. It is hard to describe sound. It is difficult to express music in words. (... *Similarly* ...)

7. Matt is skinny. Matt's face is round. (... *however* ...)

8. The failure didn't discourage me. The failure motivated me. (... *On the contrary* ...)

9. The service is free of charge. Nobody uses the service. (... *Yet* ...)

10. Tim dropped out of university. Tim managed to make a fortune by himself. (... *nevertheless*)



Exercise 1.2

Ivan is writing about crime in his town. Complete the text by circling the best answers.

Crime in the Virtual World

Cybercrime is on the increase. **(1)** (However / But), physical crimes such as theft and robbery are dropping. Most criminal cases take place online, and **(2)** (on the contrary / yet) the police lacks resources to fight against online crime.

Due to the widespread of unsafe public Wi-Fi, it is not hard for criminals to hack passwords. **(3)** (On the contrary / Likewise), it is easy for them to steal personal information. Technology, **(4)** (yet / nevertheless), allows the police to track down criminals' electronic devices.

At the start of the year, the police expected that there would be a rise in mobile phone theft. **(5)** (But / However), fewer cases of such theft have occurred as most mobile phones have stronger security features. Even if a phone is stolen, its owner can locate it easily. **(6)** (Similarly / Yet), notebooks and tablets can alert their owners to theft effectively.

Internet fraud, **(7)** (however / yet), is harder to crack down as criminals use fake accounts on social media. **(8)** (Nevertheless / On the contrary), the public is more aware of illegal online activities. It has become more difficult for fraudsters to trick people into sending them money.

PART 2 Making generalisations

The following linking words have a similar meaning to *mainly* or *usually*.

In general, the feedback is favourable.
= The feedback is **mainly** favourable.

On the whole, the customers prefer coffee.
= The customers **usually** / **mainly** prefer coffee.

To a great extent, the book is about courage and kindness.
= The book is **mainly** about courage and kindness.



Reminder!

When we refer to a situation that is *partly* or *sometimes* the case, we can use *to some extent* or *to a certain extent*.

To some extent, what he said is reasonable.
= What he said is **partly** / **sometimes** reasonable.

To a certain extent, the exam tests students' creative thinking skills.
= The exam **partly** tests students' creative thinking skills.



Exercise 2.1

DRILL

Circle the correct answers for the following sentences.

- Many users have questions. (On the whole / Similarly), the guidelines are unclear.
- Most of the audience applauded at the end of the performance. (However / On the whole), they enjoyed the show.
- (To a certain extent / To a great extent), the class performed badly. Only two students passed.
- The dog did not pick on the cat. (Nevertheless / On the contrary), they got along well with each other.
- (On the contrary / In general), the products are expensive. Few customers can afford them.
- Smoking is harmful to health. (In general / Likewise), excessive drinking can be hazardous.
- We got 60 percent positive comments. (To a certain extent / In general), the game is successful.
- (On the whole / To some extent), the formula is wrong. Therefore, a small mistake occurs.
- The ageing population is a major concern in Hong Kong. (Likewise / To a certain extent), elderly population is fast growing in Seoul.
- The building collapsed on its own. (Likewise / To a great extent), the flawed construction caused the incident.
- Advertisements tend to be misleading. (Similarly / On the contrary), autobiographies may be idealised.
- This suspense film is not scary, (but / however) that is not to say the film is bad.





Exercise 2.2

Virginia is editing a customer review page. There are some mistakes. Correct the underlined mistakes and write the correct linking words from Parts 1–2 in the spaces provided.

Mamazon 0

All Today's Deals Customer Service Customer Reviews

Customer Reviews

PURE's Washing Machine

It is efficient and quiet. (1) Likewise, it consumes more water than I expected. Surprisingly, it only uses a small amount of electricity. (2) However, this is a good washing machine. I recommend it. — Helen Kwan

SILKY's Hairdryer

It is simply too noisy. It has made my hair brittle. One time, it even burned my hair! (3) Nevertheless, it is a hairdryer of poor quality. Don't buy it! — Tom Yu

BLOOM's Smart Air Purifier ★

I like its look and colour. The timer is easy to use. (4) Yet, the self-cleaning feature is user-friendly. Other than the high price, it is perfect. (5) Likewise, it is an outstanding air purifier. — Dan Lam

SHINE's LED TV

I was attracted by its low price, (6) nevertheless I found it quite bulky after I installed it. The remote control is not sensitive. (7) Similarly, the visual quality is slightly higher than my expectation. (8) To a great extent, it is still value for money. — Joseph To

1. However

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

PART 3 Summing up

We usually use the following linking words to give the main point. They show that you are about to finish what you are saying. They are often used to end a paragraph or start the last paragraph. We add commas after them.

<i>In short,</i>	<i>the taxi driver is responsible for the car accident.</i>
<i>In conclusion,</i>	<i>Hong Kong teenagers are deeply influenced by Korean culture.</i>
<i>To summarise,</i>	<i>diners have the right to know the ingredients of the dishes they have.</i>



Exercise 3.1

Circle the correct answers for the following sentences.

- (In short / Nevertheless), we believe that adopting a plant-rich diet is the best way to reverse climate change. All our previous points support this argument.
- The rules didn't kill his creativity. (On the contrary / To summarise), they stimulated his imagination.

3. The robot comes with a number of breakthroughs. (Yet / In conclusion), the robot is going to change people's views on AI technology.
4. He has been trapped on the island alone for a few years. (In short / Nevertheless), he never loses hope.
5. (In conclusion / Likewise), we should stop using plastic. What has been said has shown its short-term and long-term threats to the environment.
6. (To some extent / To summarise), this operation system is the best version invented by our company. It has all the advantages of all the previous versions.



Exercise 3.2

Norman is drafting two outlines for his writing. There are some mistakes. Correct the underlined mistakes and write the correct linking words from Parts 1–3 in the spaces provided.



Topic 1: Have smartphones made us better photographers?

- Almost everyone has a smartphone. **(1)** Likewise, we take photos more often. **(2)** On the contrary, do smartphones make us better photographers?
- It is easier to take high-quality photos. **(3)** Yet, it is more convenient to edit photos. **(4)** In conclusion, the photos we take today seem to be more professional.
- **(5)** However, we are 'better' photographers only because technology does the job for us. I think we have hindered our own abilities by solely relying on smart technology.

1. In general
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Topic 2: Are search engines helpful learning tools?

- Search engines allow us to look for information easily. **(6)** In general, some of the websites give incorrect or fake information. Are search engines helpful learning tools?
- **(7)** To summarise, the search results contain inaccurate information. **(8)** Similarly, there are plenty of useful learning materials. There are ways to fact-check online information.
- **(9)** Likewise, we should not stop using search engines as a learning tool. They are useful in many ways as long as we know how to identify reliable sources.

6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____

Grammar Wrap-up

Joe and Tom are preparing for a debate about homeschooling. Complete their discussion using the given linking words. Some linking words can be used **MORE THAN ONCE**.

Comparison or contrast

but however likewise on the contrary

Generalisation


to some extent on the whole

Summing up

in short

Joe : Hi Tom, I have a few new ideas against homeschooling. First of all, the living space in Hong Kong is limited. There's usually not enough room for activities. **(1)** Likewise, there's a lack of learning facilities.

Tom : This is a good argument. **(2)** _____, the affirmative team may argue that the children aren't deprived of access to learning facilities. **(3)** _____, they have more opportunities to visit museums or exhibitions as they don't need to go to school.

 **Joe** : OK. I'll prepare for this counter-argument. My next point is that most parents aren't able to provide rich and relevant teaching for their children. **(4)** _____, they may not have the skill to stimulate the children's self-learning.

Tom : It may be possible to hire homeschooling experts, **(5)** _____ it is going to be expensive. Different experts are needed for different subjects or areas.

Joe : Actually, schoolchildren can develop social skills through interacting with their teachers. **(6)** _____, they can acquire communication skills by learning with their peers.

Tom : **(7)** _____, homeschoolers may be able to learn important life skills such as self-directed learning. How can we argue against this point?

Joe : **(8)** _____, this point is weak. Students at school can also learn these skills from school projects.

Tom : Agree! **(9)** _____, studying at school allows students to learn to be co-operative. Homeschoolers, **(10)** _____, have very few chances to interact with others.

Joe : Studying at school benefits children more than homeschooling. **(11)** _____, school education is more complete.



More to take away

counter-argument (n.) = a viewpoint that opposes your main argument

Some people may believe that + counter-argument (e.g. *we should bring back extinct species for ecological restoration.*)

This may be true to a certain extent. However, + rebuttal (e.g. *the public may misunderstand that environmental protection is not important any more because we can reverse extinction.*)

Grammar in Pre-DSE Text Type

Theme: Personal social responsibility

You are writing a letter to the editor of a community magazine. Complete the letter using the given linking words. Some linking words can be used MORE THAN ONCE.

Words by Theme



so that nevertheless similarly in conclusion
for instance yet because in general

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my views on illegal parking in Kwun Tong. **(1)** In general, parking spaces are limited in this district. This, **(2)** _____, is not an excuse¹ for illegal parking.

From my observation, most cars are parked illegally along the busy roads. Delivery vans and motorcycles are parked for business. **(3)** _____, private cars are parked for passengers to get in or get out of. In fact, these drivers can park at a legal spot nearby. **(4)** _____, they park unlawfully for their convenience. This causes a great nuisance² to the neighbourhood. **(5)** _____, this leads to traffic congestion³ and excessive⁴ honking.

(6) _____, the roads in Kwun Tong are narrow. There are no traffic lights on some streets. Due to illegal parking, passers-by might find it hard to see the coming cars. **(7)** _____, the parking cars can block the view of the moving ones. Illegal parking at crossings causes inconvenience to road users too **(8)** _____ it obstructs the access for wheelchair and baby stroller users.



(9) _____, this issue has to be handled immediately. I suggest the police step up their efforts⁵ to combat⁶ illegal parking. There are some legal parking spaces near the busy areas, and **(10)** _____ not many drivers use them. The public should be educated **(11)** _____ they can be more aware of the importance of complying with⁷ traffic regulations. Let's make the community safe through law enforcement⁸ and publicity⁹.

Yours faithfully,
XXXXX

Brain Breaks

Which do you think is a better way to arrange parking spaces? Why?



Straight



Diagonally

☹️ harder to enter the parking space
☺️ spaces less efficiently used

☺️ = easier and safer to park the car
☹️ = maximise parking spots

With the aid of linking words, our writing can be more coherent and well-organised. Linking words can help us express our points of view more effectively.

- We should not hunt exotic animals. Similarly, we should not buy products made from them. (to make a comparison)
- The materials are expensive, and yet they are functional. (to make a contrast)
- In general, the project has brought many benefits to the community. (to make a generalisation)
- He is organised, efficient and intelligent. In short, he is perfect. (to sum up)

Version 1

Isabella is writing an editorial for her school newspaper. Read the editorial and pay attention to the underlined sentences.

CLASSROOM NEWSPAPER 15 MAY 20XX

Top News

Let's keep our study rooms safe

(1) Study rooms are usually a peaceful place. (2) However, a few unfortunate incidents have happened in the study rooms of our school library recently. Personal property was stolen and students were injured.

Last month, a laptop and a phone were stolen. Our property should be respected, especially at school.

(3) Owners also have the responsibility to look after their belongings. In fact, the victims should have taken good care of their belongings. (4) They did not keep their valuables safe. (5) They should be partly responsible for the loss. It was also selfish of them to occupy seats with unattended personal belongings.

The other incident was a fight. A student reserved a seat and found that someone else occupied it before he arrived. Their argument escalated into a fight and both were slightly injured. As the public examination is approaching, everyone is stressed. (6) In spite of this, we should respect one another. We should also learn to control our temper. It is wrong to hurt others physically. Violence is never a solution. The students involved should be held accountable for conduct.

(7) It is everyone's duty to keep the study rooms safe. Let's be considerate and respect one another. We have the right to use the study rooms. (8) We have the responsibility to use them properly.

Version 2

Rewrite the underlined sentences in Version 1 using the given words.

CLASSROOM NEWSPAPER 15 MAY 20XX

Top News

Let's keep our study rooms safe

(1) In general, study rooms are a peaceful place. (*In general ...*). (2) _____

_____ (... *however ...*). Personal property was stolen and students were injured.

Last month, a laptop and a phone were stolen. Our property should be respected, especially at school.

(3) _____

_____ (... *nevertheless*). In fact, the victims should have taken good

care of their belongings. (4) _____

_____ (*On the contrary ... unattended*). (5) _____

_____ (*To some extent ...*).

It was also selfish of them to occupy seats with unattended personal belongings.

The other incident was a fight. A student reserved a seat and found that someone else occupied it before he arrived. Their argument escalated into a fight and both were slightly injured. As the public examination is approaching, everyone is stressed. (6) _____

_____ (*However ...*). We should also learn to control our temper. It is wrong to hurt others physically. Violence is never a solution. The students involved should be held accountable for conduct.

(7) _____ (*To*

summarise ...). Let's be considerate and respect one another. We have the right to use the study rooms.

(8) _____ (*Similarly ...*).