

Linking words I



Grammar in Context

Theme: Teen problems

Words by Theme



Read the following debate about social media and answer the questions.

Social media is good for teens

Arguments for the motion:

- ① **Due to** the rise of social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram, teens are building deeper connections¹.
- ③ Isolated⁴ teens tend to have a core group of friends online **because of** their shared interests. Also, teens supported by friendship are less often bullied. **Hence**, social media is an antidote⁵ to bullying.
- ⑤ Not exactly. Teens develop their ability to tell right from wrong **as a result of** their engagement with different kinds of people.

Arguments against the motion:

- ② This view is too idealistic². Social media enables a new way of bullying—cyberbullying. Rumours³ run rampant and **thus** victims suffer greatly.
- ④ Social media is not conducive⁶ to critical thinking. Many teens post funny snapshots⁷ or satirical⁸ pictures **so as to** tease or shame others. **Therefore**, rational⁹ debate is barely seen on social media.
- ⑥ That means teens would be exposed to conflicting world views¹⁰. **As a consequence**, they may get confused.

1. Look at the blue words. They are linking words. What are their functions? Write them in the table.

(i) To give reasons	Due to		
(ii) To express results			
(iii) To talk about purposes			

2. Decide if the following arguments are for (F) or against (A) the motion.

- (i) A new form of bullying has arisen because of social media.
- (ii) Users of social media are less likely to be bullied as a result of mutual support.
- (iii) Teens encounter different kinds of people and hence they can make better decisions.



PART 1 Showing reasons

We use the following linking words to give reasons. They are followed by a noun phrase. When we use them at the beginning of a sentence, we add a comma after the noun phrase.

Situation	Linking word	Reason
We had to take another route	<i>because of / due to / as a result of</i>	<u>the traffic jam.</u>

Linking word	Reason	Situation
<i>Because of / Due to / As a result of</i>	<u>the traffic jam,</u>	we had to take another route.

- The vice president resigned from the company *due to* ill health.
- *Due to* ill health, the vice president resigned from the company.
- That road has been blocked *as a result of* a car accident.
- *As a result of* a car accident, that road has been blocked.



Error Diagnosis

Because of, due to and *as a result of* are followed by a noun phrase.
Because, as and *since* are followed by a clause.

I went on a spending spree *because / as / since* the end-of-season sale. ❌

I went on a spending spree *due to / because of / as a result of* the end-of-season sale. ✓

I went on a spending spree *because / as / since* it was the end-of-season sale. ✓



Exercise 1.1

DRILL Rewrite the sentences using the given linking words.

1. Calvin left the party. It was too noisy. (... *because of* ...)

Calvin left the party because of the noise.

2. The weather is becoming extreme in recent decades. Climate change is the cause. (... *due to* ...)

3. Mark suffers from insomnia. That's why he always looks tired. (*As a result of* ...)

4. The model, with her unique looks, is sought after by fashion magazines. (... *as a result of* ...)

5. The cleaning lady injured her leg, so she took a few days off from work. (*Due to* ...)

6. My brother gets addicted to binge-watching. He is unwilling to help with the chores. (*Because of* ...)

7. Andy stayed up late last night. He kept falling asleep in class today. (... because of ...)

8. Having a personal emergency, she is on leave this afternoon. (... because ...)

9. The ice cream is melting quickly in the hot weather. (... as ...)

10. Crystal is now having small, frequent meals after suffering from indigestion. (Since ...)



Level Up Exercise 1.2

Professor Lee is talking to Dave about his frequent absence from class. Complete the conversation using the given phrases. Write the letters (A–J) in the spaces provided.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| A. because of fatigue | F. because of my rudimentary understanding of the subject |
| B. due to the attendance policy | G. as I need money to pay the tuition fees |
| C. due to some personal reasons | H. because you've missed three classes this month |
| D. since I was forced to move out | I. as a result of all these challenges |
| E. as a result of my absence | J. because I had similar experience |



Prof Lee: Dave, I'm concerned about you (1) H.

Dave: I'm really sorry, Professor Lee. I prefer not to tell you why (2) _____.

Prof Lee: But (3) _____, you need to provide a reason, or you're going to face punishment meted out by the university.

Dave: I'm working at a convenience store overnight (4) _____. I need to pay the rent too (5) _____ after my parents split up. I couldn't go to school (6) _____.

Prof Lee: No wonder you dozed off even when you were attending class. You must have had a hard time.

Dave: And (7) _____, nobody wants me in their teams for the projects. I've tried to make up the class I've missed, but I feel as though I won't be able to catch up (8) _____.

Prof Lee: Dave, don't carry these burdens by yourself. You are not alone. I know exactly how you feel (9) _____ when I was in university. I have your back.

Dave: Thank you so much, Professor Lee. I think I've become stronger (10) _____.



PART 2 Showing results

We use the following linking words to express results. They are often used at the beginning of a sentence and followed by a comma.

Situation	Linking word	Result
Vinyl records were replaced.	<i>As a result, / As a consequence, / Consequently, / Therefore, / Thus, / Hence,</i>	<u>they are now valuable.</u>

We can link up the situation and the result in one sentence using **and** + linking word.

clause

Situation	and + Linking word	Result
Vinyl records were replaced	<i>and as a result / as a consequence / consequently / therefore / thus / hence</i>	<u>they are now valuable.</u>

- I had overspent. *As a result,* I was in credit card debt.
- I had overspent **and as a result** I was in credit card debt.
- The concert was cancelled. *As a consequence,* I got a refund.
- The concert was cancelled **and as a consequence** I got a refund.
- The weather was bad. *Consequently,* the flight was delayed.
- The weather was bad **and consequently** the flight was delayed.
- Mavis caught a cold. *Therefore,* she called in sick.
- Mavis caught a cold **and therefore** she called in sick.
- The company could not survive the huge loss. *Thus,* it shut down.
- The company could not survive the huge loss **and thus** it shut down.
- I returned the books late. *Hence,* I was charged a late fee.
- I returned the books late **and hence** I was charged a late fee.



Reminder

When we link up the situation and the result using **and** + linking word, we can omit the subject of the second clause if the two clauses share the same subject.

The main server of the computer network has broken down **and hence** (it) has to be repaired.

Many shops will have a summer sale **and therefore** (they) are going to attract many customers.

Let's compare

<i>as a result</i>	<i>as a result of</i>
To express results I've been exercising regularly. <i>As a result,</i> <u>my health is improving.</u>	To give reasons <i>As a result of</i> <u>regular exercise,</u> my health is improving.

clause

noun phrase



Exercise 2.1

Rewrite the sentences using the given linking words.

1. One of my fingers has been cut. It is bleeding.

One of my fingers has been cut and hence (it) is bleeding. _____ (... hence ...)

2. Tom does not brush his teeth twice a day. He has tooth decay and bad breath.

_____ (... Thus ...)

3. Nancy was nominated for the scholarship. Her academic performance was excellent.

_____ (As a result of ...)

4. The warranty has expired. I have to pay \$500 to repair the phone.

_____ (... therefore ...)

5. The crew had to make up for the delay. The actor was late by an hour.

_____ (... consequently ...)

6. Tony has been driving for a decade. He is a skilled driver.

_____ (... as a consequence ...)



Exercise 2.2

Fiona is reading a blog entry of a vegetarian. Rewrite the underlined sentences using the given linking words.

Going vegetarian is better for our planet. **(1)** The demand for meat decreases.

Fewer animals will be bred to suffer. **(2)** Besides, plant-based diets are healthier.

Vegetarians are less likely to suffer from conditions like kidney stones.

(3) Vegetarianism preserves the environment by conserving water used to

raise livestock and protecting grassland from being grazed. **(4)** Not raising

animals for food reduces environmental pollution too as the waste from

animals pollutes air and water. **(5)** Having a plant-based diet is considered a

solution to climate change. This is why more and more people are becoming aware of the

drawbacks of eating meat. **(6)** However, as the livestock industry may disappear, billions of people may

lose their livelihoods.



1. The demand for meat decreases. Therefore, fewer animals will be bred to suffer. _____ (... Therefore ...)

2. _____
 _____ (... As a consequence ...)

3. _____
 _____ (... Hence ...)

4. _____
 _____ (... as a result ...)
5. _____
 _____ (... thus ...)
6. _____
 _____ (... Consequently ...)

PART 3 Showing purposes

We use the following linking words to talk about purposes. They are followed by a verb phrase.

Situation	Linking word	Purpose
<i>I applied for an entry visa</i>	<i>in order to / so as to</i>	<i>travel to Finland.</i>

verb phrase

Only *in order to* can come at the beginning of a sentence. We add a comma after the verb phrase.

Linking word	Purpose	Situation
<i>In order to</i>	<i>travel to Finland,</i>	<i>I applied for an entry visa.</i>

Let's compare

<i>so that / in order that + clause</i>	<i>so as to / in order to + verb phrase</i>
<i>Alex studied all night so that / in order that he could score high in the exam.</i>	<i>Alex studied all night in order to / so as to score high in the exam.</i>

modal

Exercise 3

Amy is reading a guide. Complete the guide by circling the best linking words.

A Guide to Working Out at the Gym

- Take an introductory course (in order to / so that) familiarise yourself with the equipment.
- Set goals with your trainer (so as to / in order that) he or she can design a workout plan for you.
- Do not put any personal belongings on the machines (so as not to / in order that not) inconvenience other users.
- Always return the equipment to where it was (so that / so as to) keep the room in order.
- (So as not to / In order not to) hurt yourself or others, be careful while using a dumbbell.
- Look in the mirror while lifting a barbell (so that / so as to) your posture will be correct.
- (In order to / So as to) maintain a stable position, keep your feet on the floor while doing bench press.
- Set the treadmill at a reasonable pace (in order not to / so that) run the risk of falling.



Grammar Wrap-up

Elizabeth is reading an article about peer pressure. Complete the article by circling the best answers.

How do peers influence teenagers?

Peer pressure is at the centre of teenagers' lives (1) should be taken seriously. Whenever they do something (2) the influence of others, they are doing it (3) peer pressure. They may join a study group (4) work together. They may also form interest groups (5) the hobbies they share. These examples show that peer pressure is not always harmful. In fact, it can motivate teenagers to take positive actions. (6), it plays a major role in the personal development of adolescents.

Nevertheless, its potential dangers are noteworthy. (7) fit in, teenagers may make bad choices. For instance, even a disciplined teenager may be pressured into smoking and drinking (8) feel left out.

(9), teenagers may do anything (10) gain peer acceptance. Research shows that parents influence their children deeply. (11), it is important for parents to explain to their children (12) they can learn the right way to deal with peer pressure.



- (1)** A. hence
 B. and therefore
 C. as a result
 D. as a result of

- (2)** A. as a result
 B. as a consequence
 C. due to
 D. in order to

- (3)** A. as a result of
 B. as a result
 C. and consequently
 D. as a consequence

- (4)** A. because of
 B. so as to
 C. and therefore
 D. in order that

- (5)** A. in order that
 B. in order not to
 C. because
 D. because of

- (6)** A. Thus
 B. Since
 C. Because of
 D. And as a result of

- (7)** A. Due to
 B. So as to
 C. So as not to
 D. In order to

- (8)** A. because of
 B. since
 C. in order to
 D. in order not to

- (9)** A. So as to
 B. As a result of
 C. Consequently
 D. In order that

- (10)** A. in order to
 B. in order that
 C. and therefore
 D. and as a result

- (11)** A. Therefore
 B. In order that
 C. So that
 D. Because

- (12)** A. due to
 B. and so that
 C. in order that
 D. consequently

Grammar in Pre-DSE Text Type

Theme: Teen problems

Sue is reading a speech. Complete the speech using the correct linking words and the given phrases. Underline the linking words and write the letters (A–J) in the spaces provided.

Words by Theme



Dear parents, teachers and fellow students,

(1) Because / Because of , today I would like to talk about it and how it affects our self-esteem¹ negatively.

It is not uncommon to hear teenagers grumbling about their bodies. 'My figure² is not as good as the models', said one of my classmates. I am sure that many of us have had similar thoughts before. (2) As a result / Because, if we have the bodies we desire. We teenagers often feel dissatisfied with our bodies (3) as a result of / and thus . Some of us often adopt extreme diets (4) so as to / in order that presented by the media, overlooking³ the fact that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. (5) Hence / So that, . (6) In order to / So as to , I would like to offer some tips.

Some people are self-confident (7) because / due to . (8) In order that / Due to , we can learn to appreciate our attractive features. Moreover, we can look at our bodies from a different perspective: the human body is an admirable mechanism (9) due to / since . Good looks are surely nice to have, but they are secondary.

If we really want to work on our appearance, try to set attainable⁴ goals (10) in order not to / in order that an impossible ideal. It is alright to develop eating, sleeping and workout habits step by step.



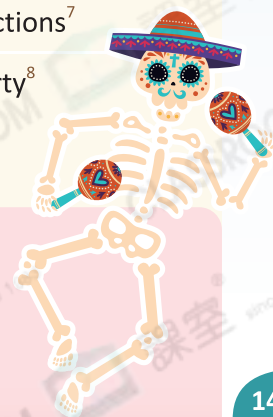
- A. they love their bodies
- B. many of us fail to accept who we are
- C. get everyone here to embrace⁵ who they are
- D. achieve the perfect body
- E. feel guilty about not achieving
- F. we believe we will live more happily
- G. the numerous functions it performs

- H. the growing focus on body image⁶
- I. we will not focus on our imperfections⁷
- J. the changes brought on by puberty⁸ on our bodies

Brain Breaks

Why does Mr skeleton go to parties alone?

Answer: Because he has nobody (no body) to go with him.



Linking words improve cohesion and add clarity by connecting ideas to ideas, sentences to sentences and paragraphs to paragraphs.



- Billy ran away from home **due to** domestic abuse. (to give a reason)
- Billy is not feeling well and **hence** has been absent from school for days. (to express a result)
- **In order not to** fall behind with his schoolwork, Billy has joined a study group. (to talk about a purpose)

Version 1

Edith is writing an apology letter to her history teacher. Read the letter and pay attention to the underlined parts.

Dear Mr Chow,

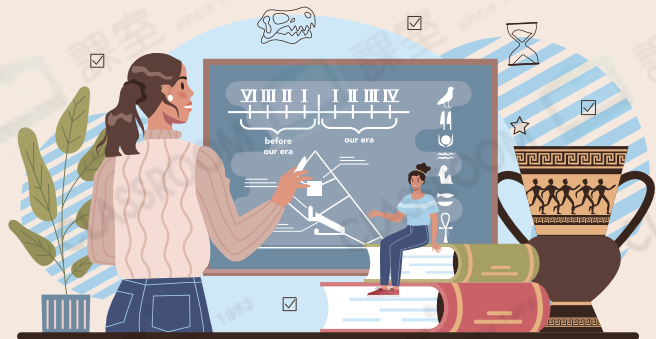
(1) I am writing this letter because I would like to apologise for what I did last week in your class. I have spent the whole week reflecting on the incident. (2) The result is that I came to the realisation that I was in the wrong. (3) I must have upset everyone, particularly you, terribly. I owe you a formal apology.

I wish to begin by explaining what I did. On that day, (4) you gave us a pop quiz in the hope of evaluating how well we understood some historical events. (5) I was angry because I found the nature of the pop quiz unfair. (6) I mistakenly thought that you were trying to shame us in order to push us to revise regularly. I failed to see your good intention to go over some difficult concepts with us.

Still, there is no excuse for what I did after the quiz. (7) My growing resentment was why I interrupted and teased you about your teaching. Reacting with extraordinary patience, (8) you suggested that we clear up any misunderstandings after class; in this way, the lesson would not be disrupted. You even proposed that we meet at the tuck shop. I ignored you and did not show up.

(9) My bad attitude must have disappointed you greatly. (10) I promise to behave well from now on. I hope you will restore your confidence in me.

Yours sincerely,
Edith Yuen



Version 2

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

Dear Mr Chow,

(1) I am writing this letter in order to apologise for what I did last week in your class. (... *in order to* ...)

I have spent the whole week reflecting on the incident. (2) _____

_____ (*As a result* ...) (3) _____

_____ (... *hence* ...)

I wish to begin by explaining what I did. On that day, (4) _____

_____ (... *so as to* ...).

(5) _____ (... *because of* ...)

(6) _____

_____ (... *in order that* ... *consequently* ...)

Still, there is no excuse for what I did after the quiz. (7) _____

(*As a result of* ...) Reacting with extraordinary patience, (8) _____

(... *in order not to* ...). You even proposed that we meet at the tuck shop. I ignored you and did not show up.

(9) _____

_____ (... *due to* ...)

(10) _____

_____ (... *so that* ...)

Yours sincerely,

Edith Yuen

