

WRITING

ATTITUDE MARKERS and CONNECTORS

As we have seen, in discourse we find certain elements which function as:

• **ATTITUDE MARKERS:** these are *disjuncts* or adverbial elements which serve to express the attitude of the speaker/writer with regards to what s/he is saying.

(1) **Perhaps** she will change her mind if we insist.

• **CONNECTORS:** these are *conjuncts* or adverbial elements which serve to express a connection of meaning between a sentence and the previous text.

(2) We realize that you would like to consider your decision as final. **However**, we would like you to reconsider it.

— We may also include *conjunctions* here, since they function to connect clauses.

(3) She can't give you a hand with your work, **because** she is very busy.

Disjuncts and conjuncts are typically found at the beginning of the sentence after a full stop and are often separated from the sentence in which they appear by a comma. Conjunctions, on the other hand, are normally found after a comma separating the two clauses which they are connecting.

SUMMARY TABLE OF ATTITUDE MARKERS

OPINION	In my opinion,... Personally,... From my point of view,...
POSITION	Frankly,... Seriously,... Actually,...
LIKELIHOOD	Perhaps,... Maybe,... Certainly,...
EVALUATIVE	Unfortunately,... Luckily,... Hopefully,...
INTENSIFYING	Evidently,... Obviously,... Needless to say,...
DOWNTONING	Apparently,... On the whole,... To a certain extent,...

SUMMARY TABLE OF CONNECTORS

	CONJUNCTIONS	CONJUNCTS
ADDITIVE		
ADDITION	and, not only... but also	In addition,... Moreover,... Besides,... Furthermore,...
ALTERNATION	or, (either)... or, or else	Alternatively,... On the other hand,...
COMPARISON	as, as if/though	Similarly,... In the same way,... Likewise,...
REFORMULATION		In other words,... To put it another way,... That is to say,...
EXEMPLIFICATION		For instance,... For example,... Thus,...
TEMPORAL		
COOCCURRENCE	when, while, as	At the same time,... Meanwhile,...
PRECEDENCE	before, until	Previously,... Until then,...
SUBSEQUENCE	after, since	Then,... After a time,... Later,...
CONTRASTIVE		
CONTRAST	but, whereas	Yet,... However,... Nevertheless,... In contrast... On the other hand,...
CONCESSION	although, even though	In spite of this,... Despite this,...
CAUSAL		
CAUSE, REASON	because, since, as	For this reason,... On account of this,...
RESULT	so that	So,... Therefore,... Consequently,... As a result,...
PURPOSE	so that, in order that/to	With this in mind,...
CONDITION	if, unless, as long as, provided that	Otherwise,... In that case,...
SEQUENTIAL		
ENUMERATION		First(ly),... Lastly,... To begin with,... In the second place,...
SUMMARY		To sum up,... In short,...
CONCLUSION		In conclusion,... In the end,... Finally,...