**4.5 reducing the length of link words / phrases**

Below is a list of phrases that are typically used at the beginning of a sentence in order to link it in some way to the previous sentence. The phrases could all be replaced with one of the following: a) Note that b) Clearly c) In fact d) Since. Decide which.

1. It is worthwhile noting that…

2. As a matter of fact…

3. It must be emphasized that…

4. It is interesting to observe that…

5. It is worth bearing in mind that…

6. As the reader will no doubt be aware…

7. Obviously, this does not mean that…

8. It may be noticed that…

9. It is possible to observe that…

10. On the basis of the fact that…

A.Wallwork , *English for Academic Research: Writing Exercises,* 52

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**4.6 shifting the position of link words expressing consequences**

Replace the phrases in italics with thus/hence. Relocate thus/hence to a different position and make any other necessary changes. The idea is that, where possible, link words should be placed later in the sentence rather than at the beginning.

Example: *On account of this,* the experiments were repeated.

- The experiments were *thus* repeated.

1. *For this reason,* firms offering such goods need to make a greater effort to be aware of competitors.

2. *This means that* the diffusion of such processes is likely to increase the total number of errors made.

3. A license agreement may be renewed after ten years. *In other words,* this makes software protection potentially infinite.

4. *As a consequence,* companies are devoting more and more attention to managing their brands.

5. *In line with this reasoning,* such firms should have a higher incentive to deposit trademarks.

A.Wallwork , *English for Academic Research: Writing Exercises,* 53

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**5.4 replacing several words with one preposition or adverb**

Replace the part in bold with just one preposition or conjunction.

1. The table shows all the information **relevant to** costs.

2. This engine is more powerful **with respect to** the previous version.

3. This takes place **for the period of time from** May to July.

4. Unfortunately, some deficiencies remain **in connection with** the performance.

5. This can be done **by means of** a dedicated piece of equipment.

6. Several papers on this topic appeared **in the course of** the last century.

7. These are used **for the purpose of** estimating the costs.

8. There is no information **as regards** this topic in the literature.

9. Some deficiencies remain **in relation to** the mode of discovery.

10. There are serious problems **on account of the fact that** the performance is erratic.

A.Wallwork , *English for Academic Research: Writing Exercises,* 76

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**5.5 replacing several words with one adverb[[1]](#footnote-1)**

Replace the part in bold with just one adverb.

1. This can be achieved **in a satisfactory way**.

2. **From a conceptual point of view**, the task is quite difficult to visualize..

3. **In the normal course of events,** such occurrences are rare.

4. **As a consequence of this**, we were unable to….

5. It can search for solutions **in an incremental way**.

6. Since these calculations are **in general** redundant, we decided to…

7. **It is interesting to note that** x = y.

8. **It is probably the case that** x is higher than y.

9. **It is immediate to see that this** is a much simpler solution.

10. Installation is carried out **in an automatic fashion**.

**44.1 Improve these sentences:[[2]](#footnote-2)**

Ex. It is expected that the strike will end soon.

 The strike is expected to end soon.

1. It is believed that the thieves got in through the kitchen window.

2. It is said that there is a secret tunnel between the houses.

3. It is expected that the weather will be good tomorrow.

4. It is reported that many people are homeless after the flood.

5. It was adopted an estimation method that considers voltage and current.

6. It is thought that the prisoner escaped by climbing over a wall.

7. It is reported that the building has been badly damaged by fire.

8. a) It is said that the company is losing a large amount of money.

 b) It is believed that the company lost a large amount of money last year.

 c) It is expected that the company will lose a large amount of money this year.

**8.12 Referring to figures and tables[[3]](#footnote-3)\***

Insert the words below into the spaces. They must have a similar meaning to the other words in bold.

apparent, are presented, below, chart, details, highlights, illustrated, indicate, note, summarizes.

1. Table 1 **compares/lists/details/** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the data on the progress of the patients.

2. Table 2 **proves/ shows/ demonstrates/ illustrates/** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that developed countries create over 3,000 times more toxic waste than most developing countries.

3. Figure 1 **presents/ reports/ shows/** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the data on the first set of findings.

4. Figure 3 **pinpoints/**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ exactly where X meets Y.

5. As **shown/highlighted/ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/ detailed/ can be seen** in Fig. 1…

6. The results on X **can be seen/ are compared/** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Fig. 1.

7. From the **graph/ photo/ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/ histogram**, we can observe that…

8. It is **clear/** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from Fig. 4 that…

9. We **observe/** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from Table 1 that…

10. The graph **to the left/ to the right/ above/** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ shows that…

**Look at these sentences and decide if the statement which follows each one is true or false.** **Use the words and expressions in bold to help you decide. In case the statement is false, make it true.**

1. The population of the country has trebled in the last 25 years.

 There has been a **dramatic increase** in the number of people living in the country.

2. Unemployment has dropped by about 2% every year for the last six years.

 There has been a **steady** decrease in the number of people out of work.

3. The governments has spent a lot of money improving roads around the country.

 There has been a **deterioration** in the national road system.

4. The number of exam passes achieved by the school's pupils has risen by almost 50%.

 There has been a **decline** in the number of exam passes.

5. American travellers abroad have discovered that they can buy more foreign currency with their dollar.

 There has been a **weakening** of the dollar.

6. lt is now much easier to import goods into the country than it was a few years ago

 There has been a **tightening up** of border controls.

7. We're increasing our stocks of coal before the winter begins.

 We're **running** **down** our stocks of coal.

8. Prices have gone up by about 4%every year since 1998.

 There has been a constant rise in the rate of inflation'

9. The pass rate for the exam was 3% lower this year than it was last year'

 There has been a **sharp fall** in the pass rate.

10. The alliance are going to reduce the number of conventional weapons in their armed forces.

 The alliance are going to **build up** the number of weapons they have.

11. Deflation has adversely affected industries around the country.

 There has been a **growth in** industrial activity'

12. The rules are much stricter now than they were before'

 There has been a **relaxation** of the rules.

13. Last year, 12% of the population worked in industry and 10% worked in agriculture. This year, 14% of the population work in industry and 8% work in agriculture.

There has been a **narrowing of the gap** between those working in different sectors of the economy.

14. Some management roles in the company will not exist this time next year.

 Some management roles are going to be **phased out**.

15. More people are shopping at large supermarkets rather than small village shops.

 There has been an **upward trend** in the number of people shopping in small village shops.

16. Her English is clearly better now than it was when she first arrived.

 There has been **marked progress** in her English.

17. People live in better houses, drive nicer cars and eat higher-quality food than they did twenty years ago.

 There has been a general **improvement** in the standard of living.

18. Our company has opened factories in France, Germany and Italy in the last five years.

 Our company has witnessed considerable **expansion** in the last five years.

19. The government will spend less on the National Health Service next year.

 There are going to be **cuts** in healthcare spending next year.

20. British people nowadays want to see more of the world.

 British people nowadays want to **narrow** their horizons.

Complete the sentences using could, must, may, should, might, ought to, need to, can, have to, their past (could have, must have…) or the negative (should not, must not have…). Note the sentences to be transformed are colloquial, not academic.[[4]](#footnote-4)

1. Perhaps the damage was caused by the heat exposure.

 The damage…

2. We felt sure that the damage was caused by heat exposure.

 The damage…

3. No way was the damage caused by heat exposure.

 The damage…

4. We don’t expect heat exposure to cause any damage.

 Heat exposure…

5. It is possible that the damage wasn’t caused by heat exposure.

 The damage…

6. I advise you to heat it.

 It…

7. I don’t think it was a good idea to expose it to heat.

 It…

1. A.Wallwork , *English for Academic Research: Writing Exercises,* 77

DOI 10.1007/978-1-4614-4298-1 © Springer Science+Business Media New York 2013 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. \*English Grammar in Use, Unit 44 – Murphy, Raymond – Cambridge University Press – 2nd Edition, 1994. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. \* A. Wallwork, English for Academic Research: Vocabulary Exercises, page 171

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4. H. Glasman-Deal, Science Research Writing for non-native speakers of English, pages 166-167 © 2010 Imperial College Press. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)