

Academic Writing Sentence Starters

Compiled using materials from:

Hipwell, P 2012, *How to write what you want to say...*, Logonliteracy, Australia.

Use these words and phrases to connect ideas within and between sentences

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| accordingly | by contrast | definitely | finally | in contrast | it is/becomes clear | not only...but also |
| additionally | clarified | differs from | following | inevitably | it is evident | on the contrary |
| adds weight to | collectively | despite this | for as long as | indicates | just as...,so... | on the whole |
| admittedly | combines | determined | for example | in order to | justifiably | overwhelming/ly |
| alternatively | commonly | drawn together, | for instance | in other respects | likely that | primarily |
| although | comprises | due to | for this reason | in particular | likewise | provides strong evidence |
| apparently | confirm/confirms | essentially | furthermore | instead | limited to/by | rather than |
| As revealed by | consequently | even though/so/if | given this fact | in spite of this | meant that | regardless/of |
| As well as | Consists of | evidence suggests | hence | interprets | moreover | resulting in |
| because / because of this/that... | contributes/ed to | evidently | however | in the same way | most importantly | reveals |
| besides | corroborate/s | except | if...,then..., | is composed of | much/no doubt | similarly |
| by comparison | defined/definition | extended | in addition | is similar to | nevertheless | substantiated |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| subsequently | the effect of | typically | what's more | will ensure |
| such as | therefore | ultimately | whereas | without exception |
| suggests | therefore it seems.. | under these circumstances | which leads to | yet |
| specifically | thus | unless | which is caused by | |
| the central focus of | Together with | usually | will achieve | |

Substitutes for 'says that'

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| admits that | offers an alternative explanation |
| argues that | pleads the case for |
| asserts that | proposes an alternative |
| comes to the conclusion that | puts forward the view/evidence that/for |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| concludes that | reports the findings |
| contradicts the commonly held belief | repudiates the argument |
| estimates that | stresses the point that |
| explains in more detail | suggests that |
| is in full agreement | supported the argument that |
| makes it very clear that | demonstrates/ed that |
| offers a well considered solution | commented that |

Avoiding the use of 'I', 'me' and 'my'

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It could be suggested that..... • It is seen through..... • The facts indicate that..... • This is illustrated by..... • Clearly, this becomes apparent when..... •clearly points out that..... • The most notable exception to this is..... | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is/can be illustrated by..... • This is evident when..... • It becomes apparent that..... • This shows that..... • Therefore, it can be stated that..... • This is most obvious when..... • Author 1 (date) agrees/disagrees with Author 2 (date) about.....when..... |
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Use these sentence starters to give your writing variation and interest

Providing Evidence

- Analysis of the data suggests.....
- The evidence reveals.....
- The graphs shows that.....
- It is clear from the table that.....
- As shown by the information in.....
- Clear trends are evident betweenand.....and these are.....
- According to the figures in Table 1.....
- The point is well supported by.....
- Compared withthe data inshows that.....
- This/these argument/s are confirmed by several authors including author (date), who states that.....
- Over many years author (date) has contributed to the body of knowledge about.....
- Several authors (author1, date: author2 date: author3 date) are in agreement about.....

-can be supported by the information in.....

Synthesising Information

- Thus.....can be said to.....
- Researchers have commented/observed that.....
- Several studies have reported/identified.....
- Earlier studies questioned.....
- From these details, it could be said that.....
- Studies of XX emphasise the importance of.....
- The information from source A is different to that of source B because.....
- All evidence and supporting documentation points to.....