

DISCOURSE MARKERS

PART 2

What are discourse markers?

Discourse markers are words and phrases used in speaking and writing to 'signpost' discourse (the communication of ideas).

They do this by showing turns, joining ideas together, showing attitude and generally controlling communication.

Discourse markers can be used to give an order to arguments:

To begin with ...

In the first place ...

First and foremost ...

Firstly ...

Secondly ...

Thirdly ...

After this it can be seen that ...

Lastly ...

Finally ...

Discourse markers used to conclude arguments:

Naturally ...

Consequently ...

Subsequently ...

Of course ...

When all (of these) factors are considered ...

Admittedly ...

Certainly ...

Therefore ...

Thus ...

In conclusion ...

Finally ...

We can conclude that ...

Discourse markers used to emphasise:

Above all ...

Essentially ...

Clearly ...

Most of all ...

Especially ...

Primarily ...

Particularly ...

Discourse markers used to illustrate or give examples:

For example ...

For instance ...

Specifically ...

Regarding ...

To illustrate ...

According to [source] ...

As [source] says ...

In the words of [source] ...

Such as ...

Discourse markers used to show a contrast:

But ...

Despite ...

Yet ...

However ...

Alternatively ...

Still ...

By contrast ...

Although ...

Otherwise ...

Unless ...

Rather ...

Contrarily ...

Notwithstanding ...

Discourse markers used to signpost evidence:

Which is evident in / because ...

... can be seen to be true

We can see that ...

Obviously ...

It is clear that ...