



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

Discourse markers are words and phrases used in speaking and writing to 'signpost' discourse. Discourse markers do this by showing turns, joining ideas together, showing attitude, and generally controlling communication. Some people regard discourse markers as a feature of spoken language only.

Example

Words like 'actually', 'so', 'OK', 'right?' and 'anyway' all function as discourse markers as they help the speaker to manage the conversation and mark when it changes.

In the classroom

Discourse markers are an important feature of both formal and informal native speaker language. The skilful use of discourse markers often indicates a higher level of fluency and an ability to produce and understand authentic language.

Discourse markers are used

- to initiate discourse,
- to mark a boundary in discourse (shift/partial shift in topic),
- to preface a response or a reaction,
- to serve as a filler or delaying tactic,
- to aid the speaker in holding the floor,
- to effect an interaction or sharing between speaker and hearer

Usage

Addition	above all, also, along with, and, as well as, additionally, besides, further, furthermore, in addition, last but not least, moreover, not only... but also, too, what's more
assessment	amazingly, astonishingly, hopefully, ideally, importantly, incredibly, inevitably, ironically, justifiably, oddly, predictably, refreshingly, regrettably, sadly, strikingly, surprisingly, (un)fortunately, (un)reasonably, (un)remarkably
comparison	also, equally, in comparison, in the same way, like, likewise, similarly, too
concession	admittedly, after all, all the same, anyhow, anyway, at any rate, besides, in any case, in any event, nevertheless, still, though, yet
contrast	although, but, by comparison, conversely, however, on the contrary, on the other hand, unlike
disclaimer	be advised, FYI, for your information, (just) so you know, (just) so you're aware,
example	as an example, as an illustration, e.g., for example, for instance
inferential	in that case, otherwise, then



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purpose because of this, for that reason, so that, to this end

reformulation i.e., in other words, in plain English, namely, specifically, strictly speaking, that is, that is to say

Choose the correct answer.

1. The concert was cancelled _____ poor ticket sales.
a) **Due to** b) In spite of c) owing to
2. He pretended to like her new haircut _____ hurt her feelings.
a) **in order not to** b) in case c) so that
3. The factory closed and _____ many workers lost their jobs.
a) **consequently** b) due to c) nevertheless
4. He decided to resign from his post _____ spend more time with his family.
a) **so as to** b) in order c) so that
5. The police are unable to arrest them _____ there is not enough evidence.
a) **as** b) in case c) because of
6. _____ her inability to arrive at work on time, she was sacked.
a) **because of** b) since c) because
7. _____ knowing the risks, he decided to climb the mountain alone.
a) **despite** b) though c) even though
8. _____ it wasn't always easy, I managed to have a successful career.
a) **Although** b) despite c) however