

University Speak: Footnotes

Linking Words and Phrases

Academic writing has a flavour and method, just as other styles such as romance writing, science fiction or news reporting. Try using some of these examples in your writing to add a touch of university speak.

Contrasting ideas

- However, critics do not always clearly justify their conclusions, so...
- Nevertheless
- Even though
- By comparison
- On the other hand
- In contrast to this
- Whereas
- While Campbell claims "(quote)",¹ studies by Durban² indicate that ...
- Unlike, Green¹ stresses that ...

Comparing ideas

- Similarly, curators at the Art Gallery of Ballarat¹ found that...
- More generally
- Likewise
- Equally
- In the same way
- By the same token
- Just as Chew claims ...,¹ so too does Crowley,² who...

Sequencing ideas

- At first / Firstly / First of all / To begin with
- Following this / Prior to this / Since
- Before continuing
- Simultaneously
- Subsequently
- Lastly / Finally
- In summary
- In conclusion

Introducing examples

- For instance
- In particular
- In this case
- Especially significant is
- As an example
- For example
- Specifically
- By way of illustration
- In other words

Cause and effect

- As a result
- Thus
- Consequently
- Therefore
- An effect of this is ... / Hence
- Otherwise
- Due to this
- For this reason

'It' statements

- It might be thought that...
- It could be perceived that...
- It is often argued that...
- It is interesting to note that...
- It would seem that...
- It tends to be the case that...
- It could be concluded that...

Adding an idea

- Moreover / Furthermore
- Another reason/example/aspect is...
- So / Indeed
- In addition / Additionally
- Related to this idea is...

Sentence Beginners

Try the following sentence starters in your academic writing. They can help you to link your paragraphs with a logical flow and let your reader know the direction you are taking with your ideas.

- Some additional points need to be considered...
- This approach raises some important questions...
- It might seem as if...
- The main concern of this assignment is...
- Some writers have suggested...
- Various people have emphasised...
- Numerous studies¹ have been conducted...
- Most of the evidence indicates...
- It should be acknowledged that...

- Overall, the findings suggest that...
- This contention is clearly at odds with...
- Further support can be found in the work of...
- A recurring theme in the research is...
- These authors imply that...
- On the issue of gifted education, this point...
- Composition in the Australian context...
- There is consistent evidence that...
- In line with predictions, this study indicates...
- It is worth noting that...
- Contrary to expectations...
- Based on the comments of the first review...
- On the basis of this, it could be inferred that...
- Insufficient information exists on...
- With the exception of ..., there has been little published work aimed at...
- Future research might profit from...
- By logical extension, it can be argued that...
- Similar inferences can be drawn from...
- Researchers have employed different methods, thus it is not surprising that results have tended to be equivocal...
- Research has yielded some interesting, albeit seemingly contradictory, results...
- These findings are particularly intriguing given the extensive literature on...
- The limitation of this review is that it failed to consider...

Adapted from: www.hsc.csu.edu.au

Other helpsheets available

- Writing in an Academic Style
- Incorporating Evidence
- Glossary of Instructional Words
- Chicago/Turabian Quick Guide: In-text Referencing

How to include other writers' work

Incorporating the work of others into your writing strengthens your argument. Show your reader how to find those sources by referencing them appropriately. The following examples are written using Chicago/Turabian style.

- Recent exhibitions by Kim Anderson¹ have...
- Pilven concludes that this view of modern ceramics is inaccurate.¹
- In Eveleigh's view, the breath is central to...¹
- Smith states a contrary idea about design,¹ that...
- Campbell's view,¹ however contentious, is that...
- Many performers find that...¹
- The sporting identity's assertion that cricket is more enjoyable than the creative arts has been disputed by countless artists.¹
- Durban's comments are particularly salient as...¹
- Hall emphasises a different point,¹ which...
- Many experts echo the notion that...
- In order to appreciate this trend ..., it is useful to examine the writing of Richard Chew,¹ who ...
- While not stating it overtly, Mangan¹ implies...
- Durban's landmark study¹ on the works of Shakespeare illustrates...
- Colantuano's observations¹ underline the need for...
- Wilson's claims¹ are well-substantiated as...
- Many experts echo the notion that...¹
- Peter Gaulke¹ subscribes to the theory that...
- The designers, Smith and Mangan, are likeminded in their approach,¹ which focuses on...
- Campbell's essay on creative capital challenges the contention that...¹
- Pilven holds the opposite view, stating... "(quote)".¹
- Blake, in "My Article", writes, "(quote)".¹
- It appears true that, in Pasakos' words,... "(quote)".¹