

Halliday and Hasan in *Cohesion in English* (1976) see text connectedness realized by:

Reference

Linguistic elements related by what they refer to: “*Jan* lives near the *pub*. *He* often goes *there*.” Demonstrative reference by ‘here’, ‘there’, ‘this/these’, ‘that/those’ is often used in academic prose (plus a compressed noun referent, as in “This argument does not hold water” in which “argument” refers to an argument described just previously) and ‘same’, ‘similar’, ‘different’, ‘else’, ‘better’, ‘more’, etc. and ‘so’, ‘such’, ‘similarly’, ‘otherwise’, ‘so’, ‘more’, etc. (“The same argument proves ...” “Similarly, it can be shown that...”)

Substitution

A linguistic element is not repeated but replaced by a substitute item.

Nominal: “Jan loves to drink *beer*. He has *one* every day.”

Verbal: “ ” ” He *does* every day.”

Clausal: “Does Jan love to drink beer? I believe *so* [that he does, that he loves to drink beer].”

Ellipsis

One of the identical linguistic elements is omitted:

Nominal: “Would you like another beer? Yes, another [beer] please.

Verbal: “Jan drank beer and Tomas [drank] slivovice”

Clausal: “Jan and his friends all had *a beer* this evening. Jan had his usual pilsner. Tomas had a summer ale and Marek [had a summer ale] too.”

Conjunction

A semantic relation is explicitly marked:

“Jan walked into town *because* he wanted to go to the pub.”

Lexical cohesion

Two elements share a lexical field:

“It was *hot*. Jan was lining up for a *cold beer*.”

This includes collocation¹ (words that often go together, accreting a fixity together that excludes other substitutions, e.g. “heavy rain” (not “thick rain”), “scenic view” (not “scenic picture”): “Jan went for a *swift pint*.” [or “quick pint”, but not a “fast pint”]

Conjunction: transition words²

Transitions are phrases or words used to connect one idea and are used by the writer to help the reader progress from one significant idea to the next. Transitions also show the relationship within a paragraph or sentence between the main idea and the support the author gives for those ideas.

¹ See e.g. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/grammar/british-grammar/about-words-clauses-and-sentences/collocation>

² Extracted from and slightly expanding <http://guides.library.fresnostate.edu/c.php?g=288903&p=1927133>, itself based on <https://msu.edu/user/jdowell/135/transw.html#anchor1683940> (Gregory Campbell and John Dowell)

Transitions can be divided into four broad types:

1. Additive: *addition, introduction, similarity to other ideas*

- Addition: and, and also, either (... or), neither(... nor), not only (this)... but also (that) as well, or, or else
furthermore, add to that, moreover, what is more, as a matter of fact, in addition (to this), ~~to boot~~, besides (this), indeed, further, on top of that, over and above that, ~~into the bargain~~, as well (as this), ~~to tell you the truth~~, or, in fact, actually, to say nothing of, too, let alone, much less, additionally, alternatively, on the other hand, not to mention (this), equally important,
- Introduction: such as, as, particularly, including, as an illustration, for example, like, in particular, for one thing, to illustrate, for instance, especially, notably, by way of example
- Reference: speaking about (this), considering (this), regarding (this), with regards to (this), as for (this), concerning (this), on the subject of (this), the fact that
- Similarity: similarly, in the same way, by the same token, in a like manner, equally, likewise, along the same lines, by extension
- Identification: that is (to say), namely, specifically, thus
- Clarification/Elaboration: that is (to say), I mean, (to) put (it) another way, in other words [see also Summation below]

2. Adversative: *signal contrast, conflict, concession, contradiction,...*

- Conflict/Contrast: but, by (way of) contrast, while, whilst, on the other hand, however, (and) yet, nor yet, whereas, ...though, in contrast (to), when in fact, conversely, still
- Emphasis: even more, above all, indeed, more importantly, besides
- Concession: but even so, nevertheless, though, even though, on the other hand, admittedly, however, nonetheless, despite (this), notwithstanding (this), despite the fact (possibility) that, notwithstanding (the fact) that, albeit, (and) still, although, in spite of (this), regardless (of this), (and) yet, though, granted (this), granted that, for all that, be that as it may, at the same time
- Dismissal: either way, whichever happens, in either (any) event, in either (any) case, at any rate, whatever happens, all the same, just the same, even supposing
- Replacement/Correction: (or) at least, (or) rather, instead, on the contrary

3. Causal: *signal cause/effect and reason/result/purpose*

- Cause/Reason: because (of the fact that), as, since, for,³ for the (simple) reason that, being that, for, in view of (the fact that), inasmuch as, seeing that, owing to (the fact that), due to (the fact that), owing to (the fact that), in that, inasmuch as, to the extent that, insofar as, forasmuch as [*archaic*], thanks to (the fact that)
- Condition: on (the) condition (that), granted (that), if, provided that, in (this/that) case, in the event that, in such an event, as/so long as, unless, given that, granting (that), providing that, even if, only if,
- Effect/Result: as a result (of this), consequently, on this (that) account, arising out of this, hence, for this reason, thus, because (of this), in consequence, so that, accordingly, as a consequence, so much (so) that, so, therefore,
- Purpose: for the purpose of, in the hope that, so that, with this intention, to this end, to the end that, in order to, with this in mind, in order that, so as to, so; lest [+ subj.], in case, for fear that, in order to avoid, to avoid the risk of
- Consequence: under the (these) circumstances, then, in that case, if not, that being the case, if so, otherwise, under other (those) circumstances
- Respective: in this respect, here; otherwise, apart from this, in other respects

4. Sequential: *chronological or logical sequence [external temporal ones are listed if they may also function internally – thus “to date” is not, while “up until now (we have seen...)” is.]*

- Ordinal: in the (first, second, etc.) place, initially, to start with, first of all thirdly, (&c.) to begin with, at first, originally, for a start, secondly, ...
- Continuation: then, next, subsequently, afterwards, after (this), hereafter, from now on, as of now, eventually, henceforth; previously, formerly, earlier, before (this), hitherto, so far, thus far, up until now, as yet; now, of course, well, surely, after all
- Resumption: to get back to the point, to resume, anyhow, anyway, at any rate, to return to the subject
- Conclusion: to conclude (with), as a final point, eventually, at last, ~~last but not least~~, in the end, finally, lastly,
- Digression: to change the topic, incidentally, by the way,
- Summation: as was previously stated, so, consequently, in summary, all in all, in short, ~~to make a long story short~~, thus, as I have said, to sum up, overall, as has been mentioned, then, to summarize, to be brief, briefly, given these points, in all, on the whole, therefore, as has been noted, hence, in conclusion, in a word, to put it briefly, in sum, altogether, ultimately, to put it succinctly

³ 'Because' tends to put more focus on the reason, 'as'/'since' on the result. 'For' as a conjunction is a formal alternative to these conjunctions.

Synonyms for transition words, and examples of usage (Oxford Dictionary)

(The following is just a random selection, to be enlarged as it please)

moreover

(furthermore, besides, what is more, in addition)

'These are aspects, moreover, that represent an extremely narrow range of information and opinion.'

lest

(in case, for fear that, in order to avoid, to avoid the risk of)

- With the intention of preventing (something undesirable); to avoid the risk of: 'They usually prefer to keep their goals as vague as possible lest it count against them at the next election.'

- (After a clause indicating fear) because of the possibility of something undesirable happening; in case: 'I'm a bit worried about saying this, lest it be not taken as it is meant.' 'Lest the reader think I have overlooked this criticism,

[and] on this (or that) account

(as a result, consequently)

'Books reflect the mental atmosphere in which they were born, and on that account cannot expect to live forever.' 'He does not disappoint anyone on this account.'

inasmuch as

(to the extent that, in so far as)

'These provisions apply only inasmuch as trade between Member States is affected' 'The public sphere accommodates these views, inasmuch as it does not ban them - preaching against homosexuality or divorce is not prohibited speech.' 'Orson Welles once said, 'A work of art is good inasmuch as it reflects the person who created it.'

(considering that, since)

'Today the female tradition is continued to some extent inasmuch as most hospital, hospice, and district nurses who do the job are women.'

(in) so far as (or that), insofar as

(to the extent that)

'the play was a great success so far as attendance was concerned'

'The elections are significant only insofar as they affect the outcome of the ongoing battle for change.'

albeit

(though)

'Negotiation and mediation seems to be solving the Irish question albeit very slowly.' 'Throughout this year retail sales have shown a rise, albeit a declining one, on levels of a year ago.'

although

(in spite of the fact that, even though)

'Yet although the project was appearing to gather steam all was not well behind the scenes.' 'The short answer is that although the industry was privatised it was not given its freedom.'

(however, but)

'There is no conclusion as to its cause although evidence points to a genetic source.'

besides

(in addition, as well)

As a sentence adverb, used to introduce an additional idea or explanation. Often "And besides,"

'And besides, if and when it does happen, he believes it will be an opportunity to improve the quality of provision.' 'She had got used to the idea, and besides, death was very much like life, only without the worries.'

As a preposition (in addition to, apart from) 'A good teacher should have in-depth knowledge and ability to think besides a good reach and aptitude.'

yet

(but at the same time, but nevertheless)

'The force of this threat is still unclear, yet its effect is already felt.'

nor yet

(and also not)

'We don't know how long it will take, nor yet if we'll succeed.'

at the same time

(Nevertheless - used to introduce a fact that should be taken into account)

'I can't really explain it, but at the same time I'm not convinced'

all (or just) the same

(in spite of this; nevertheless)

'All the same, the argument is persuasive [despite its flaws]'