

There are a number of words and phrases in English which help to explain the order of events. They can also be used to organize text and make it easier to understand.

See also:

More linking words **112**  
Making conversation **120**

### 117.1 SEQUENCING PHRASES

Certain words and phrases indicate at what point in a sequence something happens.



**First**, he woke up.



**Then** he ate breakfast.



**Next**, he had a shower.



**After that**, he got dressed.



**Finally**, he went to work.

### FURTHER EXAMPLES



**In the morning**, we watched the sun rise over the Serengeti.



**Meanwhile**, we got ready to go on safari.



**Finally**, we saw some lions.



**First**, I got some money out of the bank.



**Second**, I bought some food from the supermarket.



**After that**, I had some coffee.



**First of all**, the chef mixed together butter and sugar.



**After that**, she added eggs and flour.



**Finally**, she put the mix in the oven.

## 117.2 FORMAL ORGANIZING PHRASES

Some discourse markers show what is coming next. They help organize paragraphs and longer passages of formal text.

**TIP**  
These organizing words often go at the beginning of a clause or sentence.

Sequencing markers can help to put information in order.



**First of all,**  
**To begin with,** } it is important to consider which courses you want to study.

Some markers introduce new or additional points.



**Additionally,**  
**Furthermore,**  
**Moreover,** } you should keep in mind where you want to study.

Other markers highlight examples.



**For example,**  
**For instance,** } you should consider whether you want to study abroad.



"Such as" can only be used in the middle of a sentence to introduce examples.

You can also look at other activities, a { **such as**  
**for example**  
**for instance** } club or society.

Conclusion markers are used when summing up.



**In conclusion,**  
**Overall,** } several factors will affect your choice of college.