

Linking words

IELTS WRITING (FORMAL/ NEUTRAL)

Addition

MOREOVER
 FURTHERMORE
 IN ADDITION/ ADDITIONALLY
 ANOTHER (REASON) IS
 NOT ONLY...BUT ALSO
 BOTH...AND
 AS WELL AS

Contrast

HOWEVER
 NEVERTHELESS/ NONETHELESS
 ALTHOUGH/ EVEN THOUGH
 ON THE ONE HAND...
 ...ON THE OTHER HAND
 IN SPITE OF
 DESPITE (THE FACT THAT)
 IN CONTRAST/ ON THE CONTRARY
 WHEREAS/ WHILE

Comparison

LIKEWISE
 SIMILARLY
 IN THE SAME WAY
 EQUALLY

Cause/ Effect

BECAUSE / AS/ SINCE
 BECAUSE OF
 DUE TO/ OWING TO
 THEREFORE/ THUS/ HENCE
 AS A RESULT
 AS A CONSEQUENCE
 CONSEQUENTLY
 FOR THAT REASON

Condition

IF
 IN CASE
 PROVIDED THAT
 GIVEN THAT
 ON CONDITION THAT
 UNLESS
 AS LONG AS
 EVEN IF
 AS IF

Sequence/Time

FIRST/ SECOND/ FINALLY
 THE FORMER...THE LATTER
 BEFORE/ PRIOR TO
 THEN/ NEXT
 AFTER THAT/ AFTERWARDS
 FINALLY/ IN THE END
 AT THE SAME TIME
 MEANWHILE/ IN THE MEANTIME
 NOWADAYS/ AT PRESENT

Reference

WITH REGARD TO
 IN REGARD TO
 WITH RESPECT TO
 ON THE SUBJECT OF
 REGARDING
 CONCERNING
 AS FOR
 IN TERMS OF

Opinion

I THINK
 I (STRONGLY) BELIEVE
 IN MY OPINION
 IN MY VIEW
 FROM MY POINT OF VIEW
 IT IS MY BELIEF THAT

Example

FOR EXAMPLE
 FOR INSTANCE
 SUCH AS
 ONE SUCH EXAMPLE IS
 NAMELY
 SPECIFICALLY
 INCLUDING

Paraphrasing the task

MANY/SOME PEOPLE BELIEVE/
 FEEL/CLAIM/ARGUE THAT...
 HOWEVER, OTHERS BELIEVE THAT
 IT IS COMMONLY/ OFTEN/ WIDELY
 BELIEVED/ THOUGHT THAT...
 IT IS CONSIDERED/ARGUED/
 BELIEVED BY SOME/MANY
 A COMMONLY HELD BELIEF IS
 THERE IS A WIDESPREAD BELIEF...

Advantages

THE MAIN/ ONE/ ANOTHER
 ONE ADVANTAGE OF
 ONE ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF
 ONE POSITIVE ASPECT OF
 ONE BENEFIT OF
 A REAL BENEFIT OF
 ONE POSITIVE IMPACT
 ONE PLUS POINT

Disadvantages

THE MAIN/ ONE/ ANOTHER
 ONE DISADVANTAGE OF
 ONE ARGUMENT AGAINST
 ONE NEGATIVE ASPECT OF
 ONE DRAWBACK OF
 ONE DOWNSIDE OF
 ONE WORRY/CONCERN ABOUT
 ONE POINT AGAINST