DISCOURSE

- Discourse is any piece of writing longer than a sentence (e.g. paragraph, essay, or just a statement of two or three sentences).

- To write a good piece of discourse you need to:
  - order and link ideas logically
  - link sentences and clauses well stylistically
  - link paragraphs, where possible, stylistically.

- This is done through linking devices:
  - Conjunctions (but, so, therefore, because, etc.)
  - Relative pronouns (which, that, who, etc.)
  - Present and past participles (going, gone)
  - Repetition of words, lexical sets (related words and phrases)
  - Pronouns (it, they, she, he, etc.), but it is important to make sure that it is obvious what they are referring to.

- These linking devices:
  - usually come at the beginning of the clause
  - give clarity to meaning and to structure
  - indicate the attitude or opinion of the writer
  - show connections between:
    - what has been said
    - what is being said
    - what is going to be said.

CONNECTIVES

1. AND...

- **Numeration helps to add structure and clarity to writing**
  - *First,... furthermore,... finally,...*
  - *First(ly),... second(ly),... third(ly),...*
  - *To begin/start with,... in the second place,... moreover,... and to conclude,...*
  - *Next,... then,... afterwards,... lastly/finally,...*

above all *last but not* least	mark the end of an ascending order with most important point last
First and foremost, *First and most* *important(ly),*	mark the beginning of a descending order with most important point first

- **Addition to what has been previously indicated**
- Reinforcement (includes confirmation):
  also
  again
  furthermore
  further
  moreover
  what is more
  then
  in addition

besides
above all
too
as well (as)

- Equation (similarity with what has preceded):
  equally
  likewise
  similarly
  correspondingly
  in the same way

- From point of view of meaning the following are often negative equivalents of *and*:
  either
  neither
  nor
  not only... but also
  neither...nor
  Neither leaves the series open for further additions, whereas *nor* concludes it.

- The truth of the previous assertion may be confirmed or contradicted by:
  indeed
  actually
  in (actual) fact

really
in reality

my conclusion is

- **Transition** can lead to a new stage in the sequence of thought
  now
  with reference/respect/regard to
  regarding
  let us (now) turn to...

  as for...   often used when discussing
  as to...   something briefly

- **Summation** indicates a generalisation or summing-up of what has preceded
  in conclusion
  to conclude
  to sum up briefly
  in brief
  to summarise
  altogether
  overall
  then
  therefore
  thus

- **Apposition** is used to refer back to previous sentences or to parallel or related references
  i.e., that is, that is to say
  viz., namely
  in other words
  or, or rather, or better
  and
  as follows
  e.g., for example, for instance, say, such as, including, included, especially, particularly, in particular, notably, chiefly, mainly, mostly

NB avoid abbreviations in paragraph and essay writing

- **Result** expresses the consequence or result of what was said before
  so
  therefore
  as a result/consequence
  the result/consequence is/was
  accordingly
  consequently
  now
  then
  because of this/that
  thus
  hence
  for this/that reason

- **Inference** indicates a deduction from what is implied in the preceding sentence(s)
  then
  in other words
  in that case
  else   equivalent to a negative
  otherwise   condition
  if so/not
  that implies

2. OR...

- **Reformulation** expresses something in another way
  better
  rather
  in other words
  in that case
  to put it (more) simply

- **Replacement** expresses an alternative to what has preceded
  again
  alternatively
  rather
  better/worse (still)...
  on the other hand
  the alternative is...
  another possibility would be

3. BUT...

- **Contrast** with what has preceded
  instead
  conversely
  then
  on the contrary
  by (way of) contrast
  in comparison
  (on the one hand)... on the other hand...

- **Concession** indicates the unexpected, surprising nature of what is being said in view of what was said before
  besides
  (or) else
  however
  nevertheless
  nonetheless
  notwithstanding
  only
  while
  (al)though
  yet
  in any case
  at any rate
  for all that
  in spite of
  despite that
  after all
  at the same time
  even if/though