Discourse markers in academic writing: a critical analysis of their role in argumentative essays

Discourse markers are essential for linking ideas and maintaining coherence in academic writing. They help to clarify the writer's meaning, guide the reader's attention, and establish the writer's stance. This paper aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of discourse markers in argumentative essays and their impact on the overall flow of the text.

Introduction

Discourse markers are linguistic devices that function as conjunctions, adverbials, or adpositions to connect discourse in a natural and fluent manner. They are used to signal the relationship between clauses, sentences, or paragraphs and are crucial for the coherence and cohesion of the text. Discourse markers can be divided into various categories, such as contrast markers, reason markers, result markers, and time markers.

A Critical Analysis of Discourse Markers

The use of discourse markers in argumentative essays is essential for the clarity and persuasiveness of the argument. The following paragraphs describe the role of discourse markers in establishing the writer's stance, guiding the reader's attention, and linking ideas in argumentative essays.

Establishing the Writer's Stance

Discourse markers are used to signal the writer's stance and position the argument within the larger discourse. For example, the use of modal verbs such as "indeed" and "surely" can enhance the strength of the argument by expressing strong beliefs or emphatic claims.

Guiding the Reader's Attention

Discourse markers also play a significant role in guiding the reader's attention. They can direct the reader's focus to important parts of the text or provide a transition between different ideas. For instance, the use of "moreover" and "furthermore" can help to link ideas in a logical and coherent manner.

Linking Ideas

Discourse markers are crucial for linking ideas in argumentative essays. They help to create a smooth flow of information and maintain the coherence of the text. For example, the use of "however" and "nevertheless" can help to contrast ideas or introduce new information.

Conclusion

Discourse markers are essential for the clarity and persuasiveness of argumentative essays. They help to establish the writer's stance, guide the reader's attention, and link ideas in a natural and fluent manner. By using discourse markers effectively, writers can enhance the coherence and cohesion of their texts and make their arguments more convincing.

References


Appendix

Example of a discourse marker in an argumentative essay:

"Nevertheless, it is clear that the introduction of a new tax will cause significant difficulty for many people."
Discourse markers are words or phrases we use in speaking and writing that signpost communication or debate. They do this by showing turns, joining ideas together, showing attitude, and controlling communication. Other names for discourse markers can be linking words or phrases, sentence connectors, and conjunctions.

1. Broadly speaking, nurses are overworked and underpaid.
2. I don't believe in ghosts. At least, I haven't seen one yet.
3. I think he should be acquitted. After all, he is too young to know the difference between right and wrong.
4. The man was sleeping soundly on the river bank.

Answers: 1b 2c 3a 4c 5d 6d 7b 8a

Cause and effect: linking words, phrases

Appropriate utilization of discourse markers to enhance effective academic report writing.

Keywords: discourse, discourse analysis, discourse markers, academic report writing.

Introduction: Writing is one of the four basic language skills that pupils and students are taught in true. Teacher should be clear about how their students use discourse markers and how they use discourse markers correctly and appropriately. Knowing that teachers can take positive and effective steps when they teach English writing, therefore, there is a significant relationship between teaching discourse markers and enhancement of discourse markers in a sample passage of academic English. Knowing when to omit the discourse marker is a subtle aspect of writing that requires practice and wider reading. Joining, it can be tedious to read a piece of writing which has too many discourse markers, the writing can seem pedantic, heavy, and pompous.

In this lesson, we will focus on discourse markers which you can use in everyday English as well as in a speaking part of an exam like the IELTS for example. We have provided really good examples with vocabulary and structures used in C1 and C2 levels of English.

Wells, we can use "well" as a discourse marker at the beginning of what we say.