

Module 1 - 8th grade Lesson I Formal and Informal Language Discourse markers



Discourse markers

(Marcadores discursivos)

Discourse markers are words and phrases used in speaking and writing to **'signpost' discourse.**

Discourse markers do this by **showing turns, joining ideas together, showing attitude, and**

generally controlling communication. Some people regard discourse markers as a feature

of spoken language only.

Example

Words like **'actually', 'so', 'OK', 'right?'** and **'anyway'** all function as discourse markers as they help the speaker to manage the conversation and mark when it changes.

In the classroom

Discourse markers are an important feature of both formal and informal native speaker language. The skilful use of discourse markers often indicates a higher level of fluency and an ability to produce and understand authentic language.

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Some informal and spoken discourse markers and formal and written discourse markers

Discourse markers, or linking words, are words or expressions that link, manage and help to organise sentences. They don't change the sentence meaning. Take a look at some examples:

INFORMAL AND SPOKEN DISCOURSE MARKERS

Absolutely	Mind (you)
Actually	Okay / OK
Anyway	On top of that
As I was saying	Sort of
Fine	To be honest
For a start	Truth be told
I mean	What's more
Kind of	You know

FORMAL AND WRITTEN DISCOURSE MARKERS

As a result	In addition
By/in contrast	In conclusion
Consequently	In summary
In my opinion	Moreover
Firstly, secondly etc.	Nevertheless
Finally	Not only..., but also
For example	On the other hand
Furthermore	Such as

More examples:



More discourse markers

- Actually,
- Apparently,
- As for...
- Basically,
- By the way,
- Let's see,
- I mean,
- On the other hand,
- Speaking of...

Happy Studying, everybody!!

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