

Exercise walk-through

Understanding connections between ideas ■ 1.2

eXercise

You must be able to

- recognise the linking words that signal contrast, cause, addition and example
- follow a pronoun back to the noun it stands for
- work out the relationship between two parts of a text when no linking word is given

Method — The four relationships, and the words that signal them

- **Contrast** — *however, although, whereas, on the other hand, despite, but*
- **Cause and effect** — *because, since, therefore, as a result, so, this means that*
- **Addition** — *also, moreover, in addition, furthermore, as well as*
- **Example** — *for example, such as, for instance, including*

If a question asks *why*, look for a cause word. If it asks how two ideas differ, look for a contrast word.

Method — Following a pronoun

*The council closed the old bridge last year. **This** angered many residents, who now travel an extra ten kilometres.*

This does not mean the bridge. It means **the closing of the bridge**. When a question asks what a word refers to, the answer is often a whole action, not a single noun.

Method — When there is no linking word

The library has reduced its opening hours. Fewer students are using it.

No word connects these, but the reader is meant to see cause and effect. In an exam, say what the connection is and which words in the text support it.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

What does “both changes” refer to?

Solution 2.1

Worked steps

The rents doubling **B1** and customer numbers falling **B1**. *Both are needed; one alone earns one mark.*

Practice 2.2 ■ 1 mark

Give the reason the council offers for the shops closing.

Solution 2.2

Method: Following a pronoun

Worked steps

Shoppers chose the new shopping centre because of the shorter walk and free parking

B1.

Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

The writer uses the word “however” twice. Explain what each one is contrasting.

Solution 2.3

Method: The four relationships, and the words that signal them

Worked steps

The first “however” contrasts the council’s explanation with the shop owners’ explanation **B1**. The second contrasts the bleak picture of empty units with the one hopeful development, the Saturday market **B1**.

Practice 2.4 ■ 1 mark

What does “It” refer to in the phrase “It has run for four months”?

Solution 2.4

Worked steps

The Saturday market **B1**. *Not the group of residents — the market is what has run for four months.*

Exam-style 3.1

Which word best describes the relationship between the two sentences below?

The market does not yet pay for itself. The shopkeepers want it to continue.

- A** cause
- B** example
- C** contrast
- D** addition

Solution 3.1

Method: Following a pronoun

- A cause
- B example
- C contrast
- D addition



Worked steps

C. The two facts pull in opposite directions: it loses money, yet they want it to continue.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 3 marks

Explain how the writer's attitude to the Saturday market differs from the council's attitude to Meadow Street. Use evidence from the text.

Solution 3.2

Worked steps

The council is defensive and shifts responsibility, arguing that shoppers simply chose a better option (B1). The writer treats the market as genuinely promising, calling it “one sign of change” and citing the sharp rise in Saturday takings (B1). The contrast is between explaining a decline and reporting a recovery (B1).

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

Rewrite this sentence so that the connection between the two ideas is stated with a linking word: “The rents doubled. The shops closed.”

Solution 3.3

Method: When there is no linking word

Worked steps

Any correct linking word joining the two, for example: “The rents doubled, **so** the shops closed” or “**Because** the rents doubled, the shops closed” **B1**.