

## Sentence Construction – linking words and phrases

1. Your thesis is good. In fact, it's very good **indeed**.
2. Your thesis is promising. **Nevertheless/Nonetheless/Even so/(However)**, it does not quite reach the standard required.
3. Your thesis is well-written and authoritative, (al)though/(but) your conclusions are somewhat questionable.
4. **Despite/In spite of/Notwithstanding** your questionable conclusions, we are prepared to award you your doctorate.
5. Your thesis is rather loosely-argued. Moreover, it is too short. **Consequently**, we are unable to award you your doctorate.
6. Your thesis needs more concrete examples, **otherwise** it is unlikely to be accepted.
7. **While/(Al)though** your revised version is much better, it still does not meet the required standard.
8. **Given/Thanks** to the high quality of your reasoning, we are prepared to award you your doctorate.
9. Your thesis now meets the required standards, **so** we are prepared to award you your doctorate.
10. Your thesis now meets the required standards. **Consequently**, we are prepared to award you your doctorate.
11. Your range of vocabulary is impressive. Your syntax, **however/on the other hand**, is often confusing.
12. You wrote about Plato but you should have ignored him and written about Socrates **instead**.
13. The line of reasoning in your thesis is suspect. We are unable, **therefore**, to award you a pass.
14. The line of reasoning in your thesis is suspect. **Consequently**, we are unable to award you a pass.
- 15.
16. Your thesis is too long. **Nonetheless/Nevertheless**, we are prepared to give you a pass.
- 17.
18. **While/(Al)though** this is an interesting topic, it is not one that you needed to cover in your thesis.
19. **In addition to** your grammar mistakes, your punctuation is often poor.
20. Your thesis is off-subject. **Moreover/In addition**, it is poorly written.
21. **Despite/In spite of** its length, your thesis doesn't cover all the key points.
22. **Due to/Owing to/As a result of/Given** your failure to quote your sources we are unable to evaluate your thesis.
23. Your thesis is very good. **As a matter of fact**, it is one of the best submitted in this academic year.
24. Your thesis is excellent. It is **both** thoroughly researched **and** well written.
25. Your thesis is very poor. It is **neither** thoroughly researched **nor** well written.
26. You should have kept to the point **instead of** wandering off to discuss Wittgenstein's home life.