

TAMIU
University College
**Writing
Center**

Sentence variety exercise 5

Conjunctive adverbs


Use conjunctive adverbs to join independent clauses and show the logical connection between them. Conjunctive adverbs provide similar logic to coordinating and subordinating conjunctions but generally are more formal. Some of the most **common conjunctive adverbs** are listed below (followed in parentheses by the coordinating and subordinating conjunctions with similar meanings).

accordingly	afterward (after)	also (and)	thus (so)
as a result (for, since, because)		besides (and)	therefore (so)
consequently (so)	earlier (before)	for example	then (after)
hence (so, since, because)	however (but, yet, although, even though)	moreover (and)	still (yet)
in addition (and)	later (after)	otherwise (or)	
nevertheless (yet, even though, although)			

The rule for using conjunctive adverbs is straightforward: when joining two independent clauses with a conjunctive adverb, place a semicolon before the conjunctive adverb and a comma after it:

; **therefore,**
; **moreover,**
; **consequently,**
Independent clause; however, independent clause.
; **then,**
; **for example,**
; **nevertheless,**

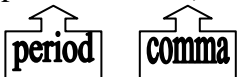
Examples:


 Independent clause conj. adv. ind. clause
Ferrets make good pets; however, weasels do not.

A new sentence can also begin with a conjunctive adverb. Be sure to place a comma after the conjunctive adverb:

. **Therefore,**
. **Moreover,**
. **Consequently,**
Independent clause. However, independent clause.
. **Then,**
. **For example,**
. **Nevertheless,**

Examples:

Independent clause Conj. adv. ind. clause
Ferrets make good pets. However, weasels do not.


When a conjunctive adverb appears at the end of a sentence, a comma precedes it:

, **therefore.**
 , **moreover.**
 , **consequently.**
Independent clause; independent clause, however.
 , **then.**
 , **for example.**
 , **nevertheless.**

Examples:

Independent clause ind. clause conj. adv.
Ferrets make good pets; weasels do not, **however.**



When a conjunctive adverb interrupts, or appears within, an independent clause, commas both precede and follow it:

, **therefore,**
 , **moreover,**
 , **consequently,**
Independent clause; independent, however, clause.
 , **then,**
 , **for example,**
 , **nevertheless,**

Examples:

Independent clause ind. conj. adv. clause
Ferrets make good pets; weasels, however, do not.



Because conjunctive adverbs often make sentences sound more formal, they typically are used in formal writing situations, such as research papers, letters of application, essay exams, etc.

Practice 1

Directions: In the space below, add another independent clause to the one already provided. Then, join your new independent clause to the original with a conjunctive adverb. Place the conjunctive adverb before the new independent clause in one sentence, after the new independent clause in another sentence, and within the new independent clause in the third sentence. Create sentences that are logical, and use all the punctuation demonstrated in the examples above.

1. Use “however” to add a new independent clause to this sentence: Fire destroyed the barn.
 - a. (Place the conjunctive adverb before the new independent clause.)
 - b. (Place the conjunctive adverb after the new independent clause.)
 - c. (Place the conjunctive adverb within the new independent clause.)

2. Use “therefore” to add a new independent clause to this sentence: Shelly realized her Siamese cat was missing.
 - a. (Place the conjunctive adverb before the new independent clause.)

 - b. (Place the conjunctive adverb after the new independent clause.)

 - c. (Place the conjunctive adverb within the new independent clause.)

3. Use “then” to add a new independent clause to this sentence: Jerry handed the clerk twenty dollars.
 - a. (Place the conjunctive adverb before the new independent clause.)

 - b. (Place the conjunctive adverb after the new independent clause.)

 - c. (Place the conjunctive adverb within the new independent clause.)

4. Use “consequently” to add a new independent clause to this sentence: The man arrested for burglary and assault was found guilty.
 - a. (Place the conjunctive adverb before the new independent clause.)

 - b. (Place the conjunctive adverb after the new independent clause.)

 - c. (Place the conjunctive adverb within the new independent clause.)

5. Use “nevertheless” to add a new independent clause to this sentence: He did not yell.
 - a. (Place the conjunctive adverb before the new independent clause.)

 - b. (Place the conjunctive adverb after the new independent clause.)

 - c. (Place the conjunctive adverb within the new independent clause.)

Practice 2

Directions: In the space below, write twelve sentences, each of which uses a different conjunctive adverb. In three of the sentences, the conjunctive adverb must appear after a semicolon and before the independent clause, in three the conjunctive adverb must begin a new sentence, in three the conjunctive adverb must follow the independent clause, and in three the conjunctive adverb must interrupt the independent clause.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.