



Missing Link

Linking ideas across paragraphs using adverbials of time, place, number and tense choices.



1. Decide which **adverb of time** to use to link each pair of paragraphs together.

before	soon	when	now
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The tiny lion cub was captured and brought to the zoo. He was fed with milk and watched day and night. The cub was called James and was not put on display at first.

_____ visitors were able to see him. James began to eat solid food and wash himself. He was introduced to the other lions at the zoo.

The swimming pool was muddy and murky and covered with floating leaves. There was thick gunge on the side walls. A cleaning company was called in to help.

_____ long the pool looked as good as new. The water was sparkling, shimmering and clear. Time to celebrate with a party!

Danny was worried the train would be late. He kept checking his watch every two minutes. If he missed it, the day would be ruined.

_____ he looked up and saw the train, Danny was filled with relief. He climbed on to the train and sat himself by a window to enjoy the journey.

The weather has been icy and cold. The schools have been closed. Even the children have stayed inside.

_____ this is set to change. Tomorrow the sun will shine and the snow will disappear. It will feel as though winter is over.



2. Decide which **adverb of frequency** to use to link each set of two paragraphs together.

sometimes	usually	occasionally	normally
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Making a TV programme is fairly simple. Everybody works through the scenes – building the set and preparing the costumes. The filming begins and the actors and presenters need to get their lines right!

_____ there is a delay between the filming and the show being on TV. The pictures need to be edited and any sound effects and credits added. Sometimes some scenes will need reshooting.

Athletes train all through the year but focus on one competition. They build up their fitness by choosing events to take part in. Every detail is planned.

_____ athletes will rest in the weeks before a big event. They will train less and relax more. They try to make sure they have plenty of energy for the big event.

Lots of machines are used in factories. Machines are cheaper to run than people. Some factories even use machines instead of cleaners.

_____ a machine will break down. When this happens a human is required to fix the problem. Broken machines can cause money to be wasted if the problem is not fixed quickly.

Metal detecting is a popular hobby. Some people spend hours of their spare time hunting for metal. They hope to get rich or to find important objects from history.

_____ metal detectors find something really special. In these cases there are rules about what people are allowed to keep. We do not know if some metal detectors have found treasure which people have kept secret.

3. Decide which **adverb of place** to use to link each set of two paragraphs together.

anywhere	below	outside	nearby
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The cathedral is very beautiful inside. There are stained glass windows on each side of the building. There are statues in every corner.



_____ is even more impressive. The stone has been carved with detailed patterns. The tower is 113 metres high.

The town of Gresty is famous for breeding horses that were used during World War 1. The town is still full of horses and they can be seen trotting round the town centre. The town hall has a huge painting of a horse in battle on the side.

_____ is the memorial for the horses from the town, that died in the war. It is a sculpture made from horse shoes. Fresh flowers are placed there by the townspeople every day.

The high streets in our towns are changing quickly. Some shops seem to close down as soon as they open but there is always another that follows. People are now spending more money in small shops.

_____ that people live, shops will always be needed. A lot of people use internet shopping these days. However, everyone needs a local shop when they suddenly run out of something.

Modern container ships are huge. The biggest can carry over 11 000 containers. The containers are stacked like building blocks on the deck.

_____ there are even more containers, filling the shape of the boat. Somewhere at the bottom of the boat is the engine room. The engines drive the huge propellers which move the great ship forward.

4. Decide which **adverb of number** to use to link each set of two paragraphs together.

finally	firstly	next	secondly
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At the end of the day, the shopkeeper has lots to do. The money in the till must be counted and the stock on the shelves straightened. Then the cash must be locked in the safe.

_____ when the shopkeeper is ready to go home, he sets the shop alarm. He quickly leaves the shop and locks the door after him. The last thing he does is check that everything is secure.

Work has started on the redevelopment of the area. The first task is to clear the area completely. Diggers will work to do this as fast as possible.

_____ the builders will move in and begin the foundations for the building. Big trenches will be dug out and filled with concrete.



Most people visit a hairdresser regularly. Some people enjoy having their hair cut, others are not so keen. The process is the same every time.

_____ the hairdresser will cover the customer with a 'cape' that will stop them getting hair all over their clothes. Then they will ask what the customer wants and begin.

Firstly I would like to say that I believe strongly that owners should clear up after their dogs. If they don't do this then an innocent person could be affected. That wouldn't be fair.

_____ I think that the penalties for owners that don't do this are not strict enough. When do you ever see anyone getting arrested for letting their dog use the pavement as a toilet?

5. Decide which tense choice best links ideas across the two paragraphs.

- a) I was all set up for my football trial. I had washed, folded and ironed my kit. I was nervous and excited.
I could play/could have been playing for a team now if things hadn't gone so wrong that day. I would love to travel back in time to that moment of excitement and joy.
- b) I'll never forget the time we visited an all-you-can-eat buffet with my dad. He was determined to get his money's worth. He refused to get any salad because he wanted to see how many slices of pizza he could eat.
I ate/had eaten enough by the time I got my third plate. I had to loosen my belt. It made me feel a bit ill to see my dad still piling food into his mouth.
- c) Carol was second in the queue for the stickers. As she waited she saw to her horror that the girl in front had got the sticker she needed to complete her set. She tried hard to resist the urge to snatch the sticker.
It was/would have been Carole's if she hadn't stopped to hold the shop door for an old lady. That cost her valuable seconds. If she had just walked in she would have been one place further on in the line.



d) Can you write a paragraph to follow this one, thinking carefully about how your tense choices can link the second paragraph back to the first.

It was so windy that night that many houses lost roof tiles. Some of the roads were blocked by trees. Then it turned cold.

The snow had...



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_____ I think that the penalties for owners that don't do this are not strict enough. When do you ever see anyone getting arrested for letting their dog use the pavement as a toilet?



5. Can you think of a phrase that could fit in the blank spaces below to link the paragraphs together? Try to use tense choice to help you refer back to the original paragraph

a) I was all set up for my football trial. I had washed, folded and ironed my kit. I was nervous and excited.

I _____ for a team now if things hadn't gone so wrong that day. I would love to travel back in time to that moment of excitement and joy.

b) I'll never forget the time we visited an all-you-can-eat buffet with my dad. He was determined to get his money's worth. He refused to get any salad because he wanted to see how many slices of pizza he could eat.

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c) Carol was second in the queue for the stickers. As she waited she saw to her horror that the girl in front had got the sticker she needed to complete her set. She tried hard to resist the urge to snatch the sticker.

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