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Conjunctive Adverbs

Conjunctive adverbs are modifiers that describe a relationship between two clauses (thoughts). They act as transitional phrases and connect ideas of one clause to those of a previous clause. Conjunctive adverbs can appear anywhere in a sentence.

Commonly Used Conjunctive Adverbs

according	furthermore	next	thus
for example	still	thereafter	consequently
meanwhile	as a result	besides	instead
otherwise	hence	incidentally	on the contrary
also	nevertheless	nonetheless	undoubtedly
further	then	therefore	finally
moreover	at the same	certainly	on the other hand
similarly	time	indeed	likewise
anyway	however	how	

Two Purposes of Conjunctive Adverbs:

To Show Relationship:

The primary purpose of conjunctive adverbs is to show a relationship between ideas in two separate clauses, not to just join clauses. When two clauses show relationship with a conjunctive adverb, they must be separated by a period or semicolon.

Example: Jose did not want to go to the library today. However, he knew he needed to study.

Example: Jose did not want to go to the library today; however, he knew he needed to study.

To Provide Transition:

All conjunctive adverbs are transitional. They can be used to compare, contrast, show sequence, indicate time, and more. The following example uses conjunctive adverbs to compare two foods.

Example: The pasta is good; however, the mystery dish is disgusting.

Conjunctive verbs can move within a sentence, like this:

Example: However, the movie is good.

Example: The movie, however, is good.

Example: The movie is good, however.