What are linking words and phrases?
They are words or phrases that link ideas, sentences and paragraphs together.

They are used in written work and in oral presentations.

Why use them?
- They indicate to the reader or listener the direction, order and flow of your ideas.
- They strengthen the cohesion of your work.

What can they signal?
A range of things including the following:

**Additional ideas/information**, e.g.
- Furthermore
- Moreover
- In addition
- Besides
  e.g. **In addition**, this technique has never been used before.

**Opposing ideas**, e.g.
- However
- Nevertheless
- In contrast
- On the other hand
  e.g. **In contrast**, social documentaries tend to mount an argument, provide evidence in terms of details, facts and dates...

**Cause and effect**, e.g.
- As a result
- Consequently
- Accordingly
  e.g. The new procedure was successful. **As a result**, the animal’s health has steadily improved over the last 12 months.

**A concession**, e.g.
- Admittedly
- Also true, however
  e.g. The project had a huge injection of money from the government. **It is also true, however**, that the project could not have been developed without help from the local inhabitants.

**An alternative idea**, e.g.
- Otherwise
- Alternatively
  e.g. Attend the lecture in person.
  **Alternatively**, listen to it on the LCS.

**A conclusion or summary**, e.g.
- In conclusion
- To summarise
  e.g. **To summarise**, the research shows that some form of bullying occurs in all schools.

**Chronological order**, e.g.
- First, second
- Next, finally
- After that, previously
  e.g. **First**, we provide a background to the television programs; **next** we discuss the concept of Australianness... **Finally**, we examine the possible consequences of these media representations.

**An example**, e.g.
- For instance
- For example
  e.g. Many Afghan Hazara now living in Australia came from rural backgrounds and, at least initially, found work in country towns. **For example**, in early 2004 about 80 Hazara were working in an abattoir in the south west of Western Australia.
Other words and phrases are used to show:
Degree of importance, e.g.
- Most significantly
- Above all

E.g. The research showed x, y, z. Most significantly, it indicated that ….

Coordinating conjunctions
Ideas within sentences also need to flow coherently.
Coordinating conjunctions help us do that.
We can remember these words with the acronym ‘fanboys’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conjunction</th>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>for</td>
<td>Connects a reason to a result</td>
<td>I am hungry for I didn’t eat breakfast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>Connects equal similar ideas</td>
<td>Mary likes to fish and play netball.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nor</td>
<td>Connects two negative ideas</td>
<td>She does not eat butter or cheese nor does she eat meat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>but</td>
<td>Connects equal different ideas</td>
<td>I like to eat beef but not to kill cows.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>Connects two equal choices</td>
<td>Do you prefer coffee or tea?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yet</td>
<td>Connects equal contrasting ideas</td>
<td>It is sunny yet cold.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>so</td>
<td>Connects a result to a reason</td>
<td>I did not eat breakfast this morning so I am now hungry.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note
- Some people use a comma before a coordinating conjunction.
- Many people say you should not begin a sentence with a coordination conjunction.

There are many other words which help us make connections between ideas. These include: although, even though, because, since, whereas, while, whether, if.

Other resources
- UNSW https://student.unsw.edu.au/transition-signals-writing

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