**ESSAY: Useful language and writing tips**

**Suggested ESSAY outline:**

**Introduction**

*Introduce the subject of the essay and present both sides.*

**Paragraph 2**

*Present the arguments that agree with the statement (advantages/benefits) and support them with examples.*

**Paragraph 3**

*Present the arguments that disagree with the statement (disadvantages/drawbacks) and support them with examples.*

**Conclusion**

*Sum up and state your opinion.*

1. **Use linking words to give examples and opinion.**

Openings (introduction)

* *Nowadays, many people believe....*
* *Some people think that .... but others disagree.*
* *Not everyone, however, is of the same opinion.*

Closings (conclusion)

* *In conclusion, ...*
* *I am convinced that ...*
* *To sum up, ...*
* *I believe ...*
* *In my opinion, ...*
1. **Use linking words to add a point:**
* ***In addition to*** *treating diseases, new medicines can sometimes help to save lives.*
* *New medicines can help to treat diseases* ***as well as*** *save lives.*
1. **Use linking words to express consequence:**

*Many people lie all the time.* **As a result / As a consequence / Therefore / Consequently,** *nobody believes them even when they tell the truth.*

* *As a result, ....*
* *As a consequence, ...*
* *Consequently, ....*
* *Therefore, ....*
1. **Use linking words to contrast ideas:**
* ***Although*** *scientists are making an effort to find alternatives to animal testing, they have not succeeded.*
* ***Despite*** *their efforts, scientists have not yet found an alternative to animal testing.*
* ***While*** *there was no conclusive evidence, most people thought he was guilty. (In this example, ‘****While’*** *is a synonym of ‘****Although’****)*
1. **DO NOT use:**
* **phrasal verbs** (e.g. *take up something*)
* **contractions** (e.g. *don’t*)
* **questions** (Would you ever....?)
* **Second person** (you, your etc.)
* **First person** (I, me, my etc.) 🡪 **BUT** you can use first person either in the introduction or conclusionto give your **opinion** (preferably in the conclusion).