

Using Conjunctive Adverbs

You've been using conjunctive adverbs since you were about ten years old. Conjunctive adverbs are just ordinary words with a fancy name. When a conjunctive adverb joins two sentences, it shows a special relationship between the sentences. That relationship depends on the meaning of the adverb.

Conjunctive Adverbs

Contrast	Result	Addition	Emphasis
however	as a result	besides	indeed
instead	consequently	furthermore	in fact
nevertheless	hence in	addition	
on the other hand	therefore	moreover	

Conjunctive adverbs can be used in several ways. They can begin a sentence.

EXAMPLE	However, I have always been interested in flags.
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They can even be inserted in the middle of a sentence.

EXAMPLE	I, however, have always been interested in flags.
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When you use conjunctive adverbs to combine sentences, make sure that the two sentences contain ideas that are equally important. Each half of your combined sentence should be able to stand alone.

Original:	I have always loved flags. They have become a passion lately.
Combined:	I have always loved flags; however, they have become a passion lately.

NOTE: When you use conjunctive adverbs to join sentences, a semicolon comes before the conjunctive adverb and a comma comes after it. Being able to use conjunctive adverbs effectively will help you to unify a piece of writing and make reading it an easy task.

DIRECTIONS Combine the sentences in each of the following numbered items.

Use a conjunctive adverb to combine each numbered pair.

When an italicized conjunctive adverb is not provided, choose the conjunctive adverb that makes the most sense.

Make all changes on the worksheet. Use a caret (^) to indicate where words and punctuation should be inserted.

EXAMPLE	<p>During battles, soldiers would rally around their flag to protect it from the enemy; ^{however} if the flag was captured, the soldiers would surrender.</p>
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(1) Vexillology means the study of flags. (Use in fact.) This word comes from the Latin vexillum, meaning a square flag or banner. (2) Many thousands of years ago, Egyptians flew the first flags. (Use indeed.) They probably tied streamers to poles and carried them into battle. (3) In battle, flags were important because generals could use them to locate their soldiers. (Use furthermore.) Flags identified enemy troops so that archers knew where to aim their arrows. (4) Most national flags display one or more of seven basic colors. These colors have distinct meanings for the countries that use them. (5) The Danish flag has a white cross on a red field because a Danish king once saw a white cross in the red sky. The red and white of the Austrian flag derive from the bloodstained cloak and the belt of a crusader. (6) Five Central American countries were once united under a blue and white flag. Each of these independent countries now uses these colors in its national flag. (7) Blue, green, red, and white stand for Arab unity. These colors appear in the flags of both Jordan and Kuwait. (8) Often the stars on flags indicate unity. Stars may show how many individual states or provinces are united within a single country. (9) No one knows who designed the flag of the United States. No one knows why the Continental Congress chose red, white, and blue for its colors. (10) The designers of the Great Seal of the United States, which also displays red, white, and blue, provided the meanings for these colors. We know that red means hardiness and courage, white means purity and innocence, and blue means vigilance, perseverance, and justice.

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Answer Key

Answer Keys:

Answers will vary. These are sample answers.

(1) Vexillology means the study of flags; **in fact**, this word comes from the Latin vexillum, meaning a square flag or banner. (2) Many thousands of years ago, Egyptians flew the first flags; **indeed**, they probably tied streamers to poles and carried them into battle. (3) In battle, flags were important because generals could use them to locate their soldiers; **furthermore**, flags identified enemy troops so that archers knew where to aim their arrows.

(4) Most national flags display one or more of seven basic colors; **nevertheless**, these colors have distinct meanings for the countries that use them. (5) The Danish flag has a white cross on a red field because a Danish king once saw a white cross in a red sky; **on the other hand**, the red and white of the Austrian flag derive from the bloodstained cloak and the belt of a crusader. (6) Five Central American countries were once united under a blue and white flag; **consequently**, each of these independent countries now uses these colors in its national flag. (7) Blue, green, red, and white stand for Arab unity; **therefore**, these colors appear in the flags of both Jordan and Kuwait. (8) Often the stars on flags indicate unity; **in addition**, stars may show how many individual states or provinces are united within a single country. (9) No one knows who designed the flag of the United States; **moreover**, no one knows why the Continental Congress chose red, white, and blue for its colors. (10) The designers of the Great Seal of the United States, which also displays red, white, and blue, provided the meanings for these colors; **hence**, we know that red means hardiness and courage, white means purity and innocence, and blue means vigilance, perseverance, and justice.