

Cloze test

Dear student

This is a test investigating students' use of metadiscourse elements to achieve coherence in their academic writing. Please note that this test is for research purposes only and will be treated as strictly confidential. Your honest and sincere responses will be appreciated.

Kindly fill in the information to provide your details and tick (✓) the appropriate option that applies to you.

Section A: General information

Gender () Male
 () Female

Age () 15–20
 () 21–25
 () 26–30
 () 31–35
 () 36–40

Which level are you in?

() 100
() 200
() 300
() 400

Please state your college: _____

Please state your school/department: _____

Please state your programme/course: _____

Section B: Metadiscourse usage

Choose words or phrases from the box to fill the blanks in the following paragraphs:

<u>in</u> <u>addition</u>	<u>finally</u>	<u>as</u> <u>discussed</u> <u>above</u>	<u>X</u> <u>explains</u>	<u>such as</u>	<u>may</u>	<u>in fact</u>	<u>unfortunately</u>
<u>note that</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>Seem</u>	<u>surprisingl</u> <u>y</u>	<u>note that</u>	<u>namely</u>	<u>my</u>	<u>it is clear that</u>

Possession of a degree should assist a graduate in finding a satisfying job more quickly and give greater prospects for promotion inside the chosen career. (1) ----- that a university course will not only provide students with up-to-date knowledge in their subject area, but also provide practice with the essential skills required by many employees today, (2) ----- the ability to communicate effectively using ICT or the skills of team working and problem building. (3) -----, living away from home gives the opportunity to make new friends from all over the world, and build networks of contacts that (4) ----- be invaluable in a future career (Bailey, 2015 p.25).

Although (5) ----- a university degree is the key to a better future for any student, most post-secondary school leavers do not gain admission to the universities of their choice. It is worthy of (6) ----- the requirements for admissions differ from one university to the other. (7) ----- most students who do not gain admission to any university may end up hawking in the streets.

On the other hand, students who gain admission to the university are faced with many challenges; one of which is essay writing. Writing is a skill as well as a process of discovery involving a series of steps. As already (8) ----- writing is a skill, and as a skill such as cooking, typing or driving, writing can be learned. Learning to write an essay will help one

express one's ideas in a logical manner. Learning to write will also help the student to succeed in an academic discourse community.

(9) -----, (10) ----- believe that writing will train your mind to think clearly, and that ability will prove to be of value in every phase of your life.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

Expected answers

1. X explains (evidentials)
2. such as (code glosses)
3. in addition (transitions)
4. may (hedges)
5. it is clear that (boosters)
6. note that (engagement markers)
7. unfortunately (attitude markers)
8. noted above (endophoric markers)
9. finally (frame markers)
10. I (self-mentions)

