

Lesson Plan: Addition linkers

Level	Intermediate (B1–B2)
Time	60–75 minutes
Skills	Grammar, writing
Focus	Furthermore, moreover, in addition, what is more, also, too, not only...but also

OBJECTIVES

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Use furthermore, moreover, in addition, and what is more correctly as sentence adverbs
- Place addition linkers correctly in a sentence
- Understand register differences: formal vs. neutral vs. informal
- Use not only...but also correctly with subject-auxiliary inversion

TARGET LANGUAGE & EXAMPLES

Formal addition — new sentence or after semicolon

- Furthermore: The study is flawed. Furthermore, the sample size is too small.
- Moreover: It's expensive. Moreover, the quality has declined.
- In addition (to): In addition to the cost, the timeline is unrealistic.
- What is more: The plan is risky. What is more, it has never been tested.

Neutral/informal addition

- also: She also speaks French. (before main verb / after to be — NOT at sentence start in formal writing)
- too: I want to go too. (end of sentence)
- besides / on top of that: Besides, it's too expensive. (informal spoken)

Not only...but also — emphatic and formal

- Not only is he talented, but he is also incredibly hard-working. (inversion after 'not only')
- Not only did she win the race, but she also broke the record.
- Key: inversion is required when 'not only' starts the sentence.

Meaning & Nuance

Linker	Position	Register	Placement error to avoid
furthermore	start of new sentence	formal/written	Don't use mid-clause
moreover	start of new sentence	formal/written	Often signals the stronger point
in addition (to)	start / mid-sentence	formal	In addition TO + noun phrase
what is more	start of new sentence	formal/emphatic	Signals even more important point
also	before main verb / after 'be'	neutral	Don't put at sentence start in formal writing

not only...but also	not only + inversion	formal/emphatic	Inversion is required after 'not only'
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LESSON PROCEDURE

1. Warm-up: Strengthen a weak argument (10 min)

Task: Students read a weak paragraph and try to add supporting points.

- 'This restaurant is good.' — what could you add?

→ *Creates a natural need for addition linkers.*

2. Presentation (15 min)

Task: Teach by register: formal (furthermore, moreover) vs. neutral (also, too).

- Not only...but also: show the inversion rule clearly with examples.
- Common error: 'Also, I think...' at the start of a sentence — too informal in writing.

3. Combining sentences (15 min)

Task: Join 8 pairs of sentences using an appropriate addition linker.

- Some should use formal linkers; some neutral.
- Peer check: is the register appropriate for the context?

4. Opinion writing task (15 min)

Task: Write 3 reasons why something is good or bad using 3 different addition linkers.

- Topics: online learning, living in a city, learning a language as an adult.
- Share and discuss: which linker felt most natural for each point?

TEACHER NOTES

- The placement of 'also' is a common error — before main verb, NOT at sentence start in formal writing.
- Not only...but also with inversion is frequently tested at B2/C1 level in Cambridge exams.

EXTENSION / HOMEWORK

Choose one or more:

1. Rewrite a paragraph replacing 'and' and 'also' with more formal addition linkers.
2. Write a paragraph giving 3 reasons in favour of something using 3 different linkers.
3. Write 4 not only...but also sentences about yourself or a topic you know well.