

Lesson Plan: Sentence connectors (however, therefore, although)

Target connectors: however, therefore, although

Level: Intermediate (B1)

Time: 60 minutes

Skill focus: Grammar + Writing + Speaking

Objectives

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

- Understand the **meaning and function** of *however*, *therefore*, and *although*
- Use each connector correctly in **sentences and short texts**
- Distinguish between **contrast** and **result** connectors

2. Warm-up: Activating prior knowledge (5 minutes)

Activity: Sentence comparison

Write on the board:

1. I was tired. I finished my homework.
2. I was tired, **but** I finished my homework.

Ask:

- Which sentence sounds better?
- Why do we use words like *but*?

Tell students:

"Today we'll learn **stronger connectors** that help ideas flow better."

3. Presentation: meaning & use (15 minutes)

A. Introduce the connectors

Create a simple table on the board:

Connector	Meaning	Use
however	contrast	unexpected difference
therefore	result	consequence
although	contrast	surprising situation

B. Examples & form

1. However (contrast – usually connects two sentences)

- I studied a lot. **However**, the test was difficult.
- It was raining; **however**, we went outside.

Notes:

- Usually comes **after a period or semicolon**
- Often followed by a **comma**

2. Therefore (result)

- It was very late. **Therefore**, we went home.
- He didn't study; **therefore**, he failed the test.

Notes:

- Shows **cause → result**
- Formal tone, common in writing

3. Although (contrast within one sentence)

- **Although** it was cold, we went swimming.
- We went swimming **although** it was cold.

Notes:

- Used **at the beginning or middle**
- **No comma** at the end of the sentence

4. Guided practice (10 minutes)

Activity 1: Choose the correct connector

Students work individually or in pairs.

1. It was raining. _____, we played football.
2. She was tired. _____, she finished her project.
3. _____ he studied hard, he didn't pass the exam.
4. The bus was late; _____, we arrived late.

Answers:

1. However
2. However / Therefore (discuss difference)
3. Although
4. Therefore

Review answers together and **discuss why**.

5. Controlled practice: sentence building (10 minutes)

Activity 2: Combine the sentences

Students rewrite using a connector.

1. I like pizza. I don't eat it often.
2. He missed the bus. He was late for school.
3. She felt nervous. She gave a great presentation.

Possible answers:

- I like pizza. **However**, I don't eat it often.
- He missed the bus; **therefore**, he was late for school.
- **Although** she felt nervous, she gave a great presentation.

6. Communicative practice: speaking or writing (10 minutes)

Option A: Speaking (pairs)

Students discuss prompts using **at least two connectors**:

- A difficult test
- A sport they like but don't play often
- A time they were tired but succeeded

Example:

"Although I was tired, I finished my work. Therefore, I felt proud."

Option B: Writing (Individual)

Students write a **5–6 sentence paragraph** about "a challenging day."

Requirements: use **however**, **therefore**, and **although** at least once.

7. Feedback & wrap-up (5 minutes)

- Elicit example sentences from students
- Correct **word order and punctuation**
- Quick recap:
 - Which connector shows **result**?
 - Which ones show **contrast**?

8. Optional homework

- Write a short paragraph (80–100 words) about **school or hobbies**, using all three connectors.
- OR complete a gap-fill worksheet for reinforcement.