

discourse markers

Really = used to express interest in or surprise at what somebody is saying

Not really = 'no' or 'not very much'

I mean, ... = correct what you have just said or to add more information

in the end = after a long period of time or series of events

Still, ... = despite what has just been said

Yet, ... = but

At first, ... = at the beginning

You know, = used when you are thinking of what to say next

Anyway = used when changing the subject of a conversation, ending the conversation or returning to a subject

Equally = to introduce an idea that adds to and is as important as what you have just said

Well, ... = used when continuing a conversation after a break

Right = used to show that you accept a statement.

Basically, ... = used when you are giving your opinion or stating what is important about a situation

Plus, ... = to add more information

on the other hand = used to introduce different points of view, ideas, etc., especially when they are opposites

Now, ... = introduce a new subject

True = used to admit that a particular fact or statement is correct, although you think that something else is more important

phrasal verbs

go through (an experience) = to experience or suffer something

get away from something = to leave or escape from a person, situation or place, often when it is difficult to do this

leave someone behind = to not take someone or something with you when you go somewhere

base on something = to use an idea, a fact, a situation, etc. as the point from which something can be developed

question tags

E.g. You don't like it, do you?

E.g. You like it, don't you?

fixed phrases

Quite the opposite = very different from what you've just said

quite a bit of (something) = a lot of

hour after hour = for many hours without stopping

I see where you're coming from = I understand what you mean

I haven't got a clue = to know nothing about something

go down the pan = to fail or to be lost or destroyed [*pan here means the bowl of a toilet]

a rough patch = a period of time when you are having a lot of difficulty

the four corners of the world = around the world

set/put your mind to (doing) something = to decide that you want to achieve something and try very hard to do it

part ways/company (with/from someone) = to leave somebody; to end a relationship with somebody

keep in touch (with someone) = to communicate or continue to communicate with someone by using a phone or writing to them

(have) an old head on young shoulders = to describe a young person who acts in a more sensible way than you would expect for a person of their age.

get/come to grips with something = to begin to understand and deal with something difficult [*grips is a noun here]

... and whatnot = and other things of the same type.

a piece of advice = some advice [*advice is an uncountable noun]

get the most out of it = to gain the greatest possible advantage from something

rock the boat = to do something that upsets a situation and causes problems

food for thought = an idea that makes you think seriously and carefully

later on = at a time in the future

vocabulary

obsolete = not in use any more (replaced by something newer/better/more fashionable)

subjective = based on your own ideas or opinions rather than facts and therefore sometimes unfair

abstract = existing in thought or as an idea but not having a physical reality

ancient = belonging to a period of history that is thousands of years in the past

comprehend = to understand something fully

detention = a punishment for a child in which they have to stay at school after the other children have gone home

ruin something = to spoil or destroy something completely

washout = a complete failure

thrilled = very excited

terrain = an area of land, when considering its natural features

field trip = a visit made by students to study something away from their school or college

spacious = large and with a lot of space

necessity = the need for something

a tad + adjective (cold) = a bit cold

boarding school = a school where children can live during the school year

simulate = to do or make something that looks real but is not real

overlap = If two or more activities, subjects, or periods of time overlap, they have some parts that are the same.

way too + adjective (easy) = extremely easy [*way is an adverb here]

skip = jump