

WRITING DEVELOPMENT

In her book, *The Writing Revolution* Judith Hochman tells us that students' problems with reading comprehension, as well with writing essays, occur because they have not been taught systematically to write ... to which her book gives a step-by-step guide.

The Writing Development exercises here are adapted from her programme.

The Weimar Republic

8. Subordinating conjunctions II – but, yet, however, even though, instead, whereas, by contrast, on the other hand, on the contrary

The subordinating conjunctions 'but', 'yet', 'however', 'even though', 'instead', 'by contrast', 'on the other hand', 'on the contrary' are going to be of use to students as they do their source comparison' questions, and especially important for AQA students as they do the 'which was the more important reason' question, and to Edexcel and OCR students as they do their 'how far do you agree' question.

Because they introduce contrasting or contradictory information, they will allow you to qualify your statements, and avoid sentences which are too one-sided.

The webpage deals with the Weimar Constitution, contrasting it with Germany's constitution before 1914.

We might identify the first difference in the following sentence:

“Before 1914, the government of Germany looked like a military autocracy;
but after 1919, it aimed to be a parliamentary democracy.”

In this sentence I chose to use the subordinating conjunction: 'but'. Can you think of a better one – explain your choice.

2. Devise at least five more sentences choosing an appropriate subordinating conjunction to highlight the contrast between people's hopes and the actual outcome of events, using the framework:

“Under the pre-1914 constitution, <statement>, < subordinating conjunction> under the Weimar constitution <statement>”

- Under the pre-1914 constitution, the government of Germany was almost a MILITARY AUTOCRACY _____ under the Weimar constitution it was a Parliamentary democracy
- Under the pre-1914 constitution, _____ under the Weimar constitution _____.
- Under the pre-1914 constitution, _____ under the Weimar constitution _____.
- Under the pre-1914 constitution, _____ under the Weimar constitution _____.
- Under the pre-1914 constitution, _____ under the Weimar constitution _____.

3. Studying Sources C-G, find issues on which they offer differing interpretations, and devise sentences choosing an appropriate subordinating conjunction to highlight the contrast, using the framework:

“ _____ in Source _ said: “ _____ ”, < subordinating conjunction> “ _____ in Source _ said: “ _____ ”.