

## 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.

### Stalemate

#### 6. Conjunctions IV – for example, for instance, such as, notably, in particular

The conjunctions 'for example', 'for instance', 'such as', 'notably', 'in particular' are ESSENTIAL for your essays, partly to demonstrate your knowledge to the reader, but mostly because they allow you to introduce relevant factual information (exemplification) to support your ideas – to prove what you are saying is factually correct.

For example, the use of e.g. in the fragment:

“Small arms (e.g. the Enfield rifle) used multi-round clips.”

shows factual knowledge of the time, but the whole fragment itself is an exemplification of the claim that:

“2. **Weapons' technologies had made the open battlefield deadly.**”

1. Use the first section of the webpage – on **Causes of the Stalemate** – to complete the following sentence stems:

- Strategies for open warfare failed, for example \_\_\_\_\_.
- Armies struggled to co-ordinate infantry and artillery, for instance \_\_\_\_\_.
- There were difficulties of command and control of the huge armies, notably \_\_\_\_\_.
- Advancing armies experienced supply problems, in particular \_\_\_\_\_.

In each of these examples, you are using the exemplification conjunctions to prove the point.

**NOTE:** There is a difference between a **FACT** and an **EXAMPLE**. A 'fact' only becomes an 'example' when you **use it as EVIDENCE** as part of an argument to support an idea/claim. Random or irrelevant facts will get you very few marks – you need to be able to select the fact-which-proves-the-point.

**Exemplification supplies 'proving evidence' to your ideas and theories.**

2. Most of the rest of the webpage gives basic factual information about warfare on the western front. Search it to provide 'proving evidence' for the following claims, writing each answer as a full sentence using an appropriate exemplification conjunction or phrase:

- WWI warfare used industrial technology.
- The British Army in WWI was a top-down organisation which gave little initiative to the individual soldier.
- WWI warfare gave the advantage to the defender.
- The battle front in Flanders was a confused morass.
- Individual soldiers had little protection during an attack.
- The western front provided multiple ways you could die.
- WWI warfare was mostly boredom.
- The western front was a place of horror.
- The soldiers on the front developed their own, entirely new culture.
- As the war progressed, attack-strategies improved

Doing these exercises will not only help you improve your writing skills, they will help you learn to distinguish between 'points' (ideas), facts and 'proving evidence' in your essays.