ANAPHORIC REFERENCE
Improving your Style
ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC SUPPORT

PURPOSE
Support cohesion
Reduce word repetition
Encourage flow
Support comprehension to the audience
Grammatical reference linking previous items

ANAPHORIC REFERENCE STRATEGIES
Take advantage of the numerous options you have to provide a coherent writing piece to your audience. Demonstrate to your audience that you can present ideas with devices that allow your ideas to flow.

1. PERSONAL PRONOUNS
Replace nouns with personal pronouns
I, YOU, HE, SHE, IT, WE, THEY, ME, HIM, HER, US, THEM
• Newfoundland weather can change many times in one day. Local residents prepare for it.

2. SYNONYMS & RELATED WORDS
A word with a similar or related meaning can refer back to something that has previously been mentioned.
• His course of treatment is planned over the next two months. The first session is tomorrow.

3. ARTICLES & DEMONSTRATIVES
THE can refer back to a previously discussed idea.
THIS, THAT, THESE, & THOSE can refer back to a previously mentioned idea.
• Tourists come to Newfoundland to see an iceberg.
• The iceberg then becomes a highlight.
• This is the most photographed feature in Newfoundland.

4. SOME ADVERBS
THEN, HERE, THERE, EARLIER, BEFORE THEN, BEFORE THIS, BEFORE THAT, SINCE THEN, SINCE THAT
Refer to time and place for previously discussed ideas.
• Residents did not prepare for the storm last week. Since then, they recognize that preparation is essential.

5. SUCH + NOUN
Indicates that the noun or idea(s) was mentioned earlier in the speech or written text
SUCH A/AN + singular noun
SUCH + non-count noun/plural noun.
• Biomimicry is a design approach working with nature.
• Such a strategy is embraced by architects.
6. SPECIAL ADJECTIVES
THE FORMER and THE LATTER
Refer to the previously discussed information presented in a sequence.
- The hurricane brought high winds and heavy rain to the city. The former knocked out power to residents. The latter created flooding in the city streets.

7. SPECIAL PHRASES
OF THIS TYPE, IN THIS STYLE, OF THE SAME NATURE
Refer back to the information previously discussed.
Follow a noun
- The hurricane brought high winds and heavy rain to the city. Storms of this type can damage city economies.

8. MOST and EACH
MOST refers to the majority of a previously discussed noun.
- The hurricane brought high winds to the city. Most of the wind was felt on the coast.
EACH refers to individual parts of a larger noun.
- The hurricane damaged many homes in the city. Each home was affected differently.

9. SUPER-ORDINATE
Use a general word recreating the previous idea.
- MUN has a smoking policy. The campus strives to provide its employees a safe working environment.

SOURCE:
Source cited with APA 7.