

ANAPHORIC REFERENCE

Improving your Style

ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC SUPPORT



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PURPOSE

Support cohesion

Reduce word repetition

Encourage flow

Support comprehension to the audience

Grammatical reference linking previous items

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.*

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. SYNONYMNS & 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.*

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.*

SOURCE:

Bailey, S. (2015). Academic writing: A handbook for international students. Routledge.

Source cited with APA 7.

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.*

Contact us

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