

## Linking words – Money can buy happiness

---

A. Read the text. Do you agree with the writer?

There is a never-ending debate about whether money can buy happiness. According to studies, happiness levels increase with an income of approximately \$75,000 per year. However, after reaching that amount, there is little connection between income and happiness. Despite this, people continue to believe that money is one of the most important factors in deciding how happy you are.

The reason many people associate money and happiness is due to the purchasing power that comes with a higher income. Furthermore, studies demonstrate that people are happiest when they spend money on things that improve their quality of life. Therefore, money really can buy happiness if you spend it correctly.

Additionally, having enough money reduces your financial anxiety. When you go grocery shopping, go out to a restaurant or pay your rent, you don't have to worry. As a result, your stress levels are lower and your quality of life increases.

Money helps the individual, but it also extends to those around you. Helping a sibling parent, child or friend through a tough time is a rewarding feeling. In spite of not being a direct benefit to you, spending money on others can increase our happiness levels.

B. Read the text again and underline the linking words/phrases that the writer uses.

C. Categorise the linking words/phrases. Are they similar to *and*, *but*, *so* or *because*?

additionally	despite	however	also	furthermore	in spite of	moreover
besides	on the other hand	therefore	whereas	as a result	due to	

similar to <i>and</i>	similar to <i>but</i>	similar to <i>so</i>	similar to <i>because</i>
<i>additionally</i>			

D. Look at the linking words again. Which rules do they follow? *Example: Additionally – A1*

- A. Words that normally start sentences, followed by a comma
- B. Words that can start or go in the middle of a sentence
  - 1. Words that are followed by a complete clause
  - 2. Words that are followed by a gerund, a noun or *this*

E. Use the linking word in bold to rewrite the sentences. You can write 1 or 2 sentences.

1. Celebrities are rich and famous, but they aren't normally happy.

**HOWEVER**

-----  
-----

2. You should buy property as soon as possible because it's a good investment.

**DUE TO**

-----  
-----

3. You have less independence, but living with your parents until you are financially stable will make you happier.

**DESPITE**

-----  
-----

4. Giving to charity is a rewarding way to spend money and you get a tax break.

**BESIDES**

-----  
-----

5. Families with higher incomes have more opportunities, so their children are more successful in life.

**THEREFORE**

-----  
-----

F. Compare your sentences with a partner. Do you agree with them?

G. Write 3 more sentences about money using *and*, *but*, *so* or *because*. Exchange with a partner and rewrite their sentences using other linking words.

**ANSWER KEY**

A. Answers will vary

B. There is a never-ending debate about whether money can buy happiness. According to studies, happiness levels increase with an income of approximately \$75,000 per year. However, after reaching that amount, there is little connection between income and happiness. Despite this, people continue to believe that money is one of the most important factors in deciding how happy you are.

The reason many people associate money and happiness is due to the purchasing power that comes with a higher income. Furthermore, studies demonstrate that people are happiest when they spend money on things that improve their quality of life. Therefore, money really can buy happiness if you spend it correctly.

Additionally, having enough money reduces your financial anxiety. When you go grocery shopping, go out to a restaurant or pay your rent, you don't have to worry. As a result, your stress levels are lower and your quality of life increases.

Money helps the individual, but it also extends to those around you. Helping a sibling parent, child or friend through a tough time is a rewarding feeling. In spite of not being a direct benefit to you, spending money on others can increase our happiness levels.

C.

similar to and	similar to but	similar to so	similar to because
<i>additionally - A1</i>	<i>despite - B2</i>	<i>as a result - A1</i>	<i>due to - B2</i>
<i>also - B1</i>	<i>however - A1</i>	<i>therefore - A1</i>	
<i>moreover - A1</i>	<i>in spite of - B2</i>		
<i>besides - A1</i>	<i>on the other hand - A1</i>		
<i>furthermore - A1</i>	<i>whereas - B1</i>		

D. See above

E. Recommended answers. Answers may vary.

1. Celebrities are rich and famous. However, they aren't normally happy.
2. Due to it being a good investment, you should invest in property as soon as possible.
3. Despite having less independence, living with your parents until you are financially stable will make you happier.
4. Giving to charity is a rewarding way to spend money. Besides, you get a tax break.
5. Families with higher incomes have more opportunities. Therefore, their children are more successful in life.