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Level : L1

Module :CWE

Lecture3: Use of transitional devices in narrative paragraphs

• Starting sentences with a time expression:

• Start sentences with linking phrases such as: then, next, finally, before that, afterwards, later, soon etc. to connect sentences and show time relationships in your narrative writing.

• First, we flew to New York on our great adventure. After New York, we moved on to Philadelphia. Then, it was on to Florida for some scuba diving.

After breakfast, I spent a few hours reading the newspaper. Next, I played softball with my son.

• Transition words ordering event in a chronological order:

After, afterwards, before, earlier, eventually, later, next, now, once, soon, sooner, then, today, until, first, second,..

 After breakfast, I spent a few hours reading the newspaper. Next, I played football with my son. Then, my wife called both of us to have lunch…

• Transition words showing simultaneous events:

During, in the meantime, meanwhile, while, when, at the same time

 She waited while he poured a cup of coffee.

 I was working at a restaurant, meanwhile my wife was going to university.

• Time clauses to show relationships in time.

 After we had finished our homework, we watched a funny movie.

Tutorial (TD) 3

a) Fill in the gaps in this paragraph providing appropriate linking language to complete the paragraph.

• \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I drove my rusty old car to visit my best friend. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I arrived, he had done his best to prepare a tasty meal. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, we took a long walk through the park next to his home. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ we had been out for more than an hour, my friend asked me if I could keep a secret. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I swore not to tell anyone anything. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ he recounted a wild tale of a crazy night out on the town \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, he told me he had met the woman of his dreams and that they were to get married \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Imagine my surprise!

b) Use transitional devices in the following narrative paragraph.

• Let me tell you the story about a woman named Jyll and a friend of hers called Jack. – The 1.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ thing that happened was that Jyll was running out of fresh water at her cabin. She decided she would have to walk into town to pick up some fresh spring water. 2.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ she left she wanted to contact her neighbour, Jack, to let him know she would be out of the area for the day. 3.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ she left the cabin, she grabbed the old wooden pail. 4.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ she would use it as a signal to Jack that she was absent from the cabin. She tied a rope around the handle of the pail and 5.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was able to toss the pail up into the air and over the giant arbutus tree next to the cabin. High up there it could be seen by Jack while he stood on the porch of his cabin down the road. He would know she was away from the cabin. This was a safety measure. Jyll 6.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ went off to town for the spring water not knowing that Jack had gone tumbling down. 7.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that day, it was discovered what had happened. 8.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jyll had gone to fetch the pail for water, she hadn’t noticed Jack coming around the bend in the forest path. 9.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the doctor and police were able to reconstruct the scene of the crime. It seems that when Jyll threw the pail up in the tree, it hit Jack’s crown on its way down. 10.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jack has had his nob patched, but he hasn’t seemed the same fellow. 11.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jyll has been known to giggle at Jack’s disaster which sometimes gets her in trouble with his mother. 12.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jack and Jyll still play at being neighbours, but Jack won’t go near the water pail.