

CHEAT SHEET · WRITING AT C1?

7 sentence openers that sound C1.

Open the sentence in a way that shows how it connects to the last one. Swap the plain opener for the C1 one.

- 1 Not only does ...**
= adds a second effect (mind the word order)
ALSO TRY Not only is · Not only can

PLAIN
This hurts young people, and their families too.

C1
Not only does this hurt young people but also their families.

- 2 The most pressing of these is**
= picks out the most urgent of several issues
ALSO TRY Chief among these is · Above all,

PLAIN
Firstly, there is the cost of housing.

C1
The most pressing of these is the cost of housing.

- 3 ..., meanwhile,**
= moves to a second point running alongside the first
ALSO TRY By contrast, · At the same time,

PLAIN
Secondly, public transport is getting worse.

C1
Public transport, **meanwhile**, is getting worse.

- 4 ...; consequently,**
= introduces a result after a semicolon
ALSO TRY As a result, · This means that

PLAIN
They have no car, therefore they take the bus.

C1
They have no car; **consequently**, they rely on buses.

- 5 While it is true that**
= admits a point before you challenge it
ALSO TRY Granted, · Although

PLAIN
Some say phones isolate us. But they connect us too.

C1
While it is true that phones isolate us, they also connect us.

- 6 What this suggests is that**
= draws a conclusion from your evidence
ALSO TRY It follows that · This suggests that

PLAIN
So this shows the plan is not working.

C1
What this suggests is that the plan is failing.

- 7 In light of this,**
= builds your next step on the point before
ALSO TRY Given this, · With this in mind,

PLAIN
Because of this, the council should act now.

C1
In light of this, the council should act now.

NEXT STEP

Try them in a C1 mock.

Mock 1 of every exam is free, and your first essay is marked in minutes.



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