

### 4.3 LINKING WORDS AND PHRASES

Working in groups of two or three, complete the following three passages using the words and phrases given. Then discuss your answers with other groups.

A I don't know whether you heard that I was a member of the club team in the folk dancing competition last month. (1) ....., I didn't think I was good enough, but we've danced several times in public recently, and the leader said that I did very well, so (2) ....., I allowed myself to be persuaded. When all the teams had danced, the jury took ages to make up their minds, and we were so nervous we could hardly wait. But then the foreman of the jury came onto the stage. '(3) .....!' I whispered to my neighbour. We didn't win, but we were very glad to come second.

- 1 a) First    b) Firstly    c) At first    d) At the beginning  
 2 a) in the end    b) at the end    c) lastly  
 3 a) In the end    b) At the end    c) At last    d) Lastly

B Before we moved into our new flat, there were several things that we had to arrange. (4) ....., we had to have a big wardrobe built in the main bedroom. (5) ....., we had to fit safer, stronger locks to all the doors. We also had to have central heating installed because the winters here can be very cold. And (6) ....., we had to get the telephone connected because, as you know, I can't possibly manage in my business without it.

- 4 a) At first    b) In the beginning    c) First    d) At the beginning  
 5 a) On the other hand    b) After    c) Second  
 6 a) in the end    b) at last    c) lastly    d) at the end

C Let me give you a rough idea of what happens in the film. (7) ..... the film we meet a young man who is obviously unhappy, and who clearly has no idea how to overcome his unhappiness. We follow the man through various experiences which gradually change his picture of himself, although (8) ..... they do not make him happier. But (9) ....., as you might expect, he meets a young girl, and he falls in love with her. This changes his life completely, and he starts seeing the brighter side of things. Unfortunately, I can't tell you what happens right (10) ..... because I fell asleep before it finished.

- 7 a) In the beginning of    b) First in    c) At the beginning of  
 d) At first in  
 8 a) firstly    b) at the beginning    c) at first  
 9 a) at the end    b) lastly    c) at last  
 10 a) in the end    b) at last    c) finally    d) at the end

## Reports

Now, working in groups, work out the uses of the following three groups of words and phrases:

at first, at last, in the beginning, in the end;  
first, firstly, last, lastly, finally;  
at the beginning, at the end.

Now working individually, put a suitable expression in each of the blanks in the following passage:

I recently read a book about a young woman. (11) ..... of the story she is living at home with her parents; she has a boring job, but she hopes for better things. One day she sees an advert for air hostesses. (12) ..... she doesn't know what to do, but then she talks to her friends, and they all think she should try for it. So (13) ..... she decides to apply. She has to wait quite a long time for a reply, but then one day it arrives. '(14) .....!' she says. 'I thought it would never come.' The letter says that there are three conditions: (15) ....., she must be over 21; second, she must be at least 165 centimetres tall; and (16) ....., she must speak one foreign language well. It turns out that she does in fact fulfil all three conditions, so she writes again, and they reply asking her to come for an interview. Anyway, to cut a long story short, she gets the job, and right (17) ..... she wins a competition for the Best Air Hostess of the Year.

