

5 GRAMMAR discourse markers (1): linkers

- a Read some extracts from other *What I'm really thinking* articles. Match them to the jobs from the list. What point is each person making about their job?

☐ A&E doctor ☐ dental hygienist ☐ fashion stylist
☐ political advisor ☐ university lecturer ☐ 999 operator

- 1 **Although** it is not my place to judge, I get frustrated sometimes. The man who rang **because** his toothpaste was burning his mouth; the mother whose baby was afraid of a fly. ~~Dental hygienist~~ **999 operator**
- 2 When you are really disengaged and disconnected, I see hands reach for phones in bags. Sometimes you even pass notes and giggle. **Yet** I also see you when you laugh at my jokes. **University lecturer**
- 3 I'm exhausted. It is demoralizing to start a shift only to find that the department already has a four-hour wait **to** see someone. There are people lining the corridors, and there is nowhere to take new patients, and **consequently** the wait gets longer. **A&E doctor**
- 4 One supermodel arrived at a shoot three hours late, then spent another couple of hours looking at Twitter while everyone waited for her. Then she was a nightmare. She was a world-class bully, and said she had never met anyone as rude as me. **However**, I fought back and she was lovely after that – **though** she made me sign a non-disclosure agreement not to talk about the shoot. **Fashion stylist**
- 5 I'm only here **in order to** help get you elected. But why you? Yes, I know, you won the party's nomination, but did they realize that, **despite** your firm handshake and boyish charm, you know as much about corporate tax policy as I know about astrophysics? **Political advisor**
- 6 I know it's not the most pleasant experience, **so** I try to alleviate the worry. ~~999 operator~~ **Dental hygienist**

- b With a partner, write the **highlighted** linkers in the correct column.

result	reason	purpose	contrast
✗ However ✗ yet ✗ to consequently so	because ✓ so ✗	Though ✗ in order to ✓ to	Although consequently ✗ despite ✓ yet however though