65 Expressing reactions

Although discourse markers often don't add content in themselves, they can ease the flow of a conversation and add information about the speaker's opinion.

⚙ **New language** Informal discourse markers
Aa Vocabulary Advanced prefixes
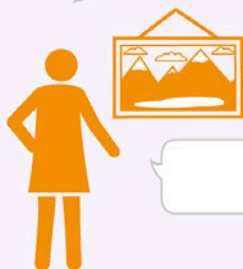🧩 **New skill** Structuring conversation

65.1 KEY LANGUAGE COMMON INFORMAL DISCOURSE MARKERS

Use "actually" to correct a listener's misunderstanding or incorrect expectation.

TIP
Be aware of how body language conveys extra meaning when talking face-to-face.

I don't think this painting is worth that much.

Actually, it sold at auction for $2 million.

Wow! Do you like it?

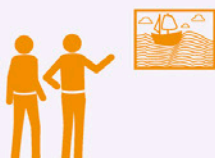I don't, **actually**. It's not very impressive.

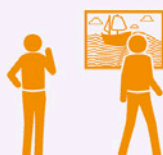Use "by the way" to show a change of subject.

I think this one is fantastic, too. Oh, **by the way**, did you read the article about the painter in *The Times*?

Use "as I was saying" to return to a previous subject after a change of subject or interruption.

As I was saying, this is a fantastic painting. I really like the way the sea is painted.

Use "anyway" to return to a subject after interruption, change subject, or end a topic or conversation.

Anyway, I should say goodbye. I want to visit the gallery shop before it closes.

🔊

65.2 CROSS OUT THE LEAST APPROPRIATE WORDS IN EACH SENTENCE

I know you say he's talentless, but **actually** / ~~by the way~~ this is a very impressive sculpture.

① These gardens are fabulous. Did you bring your camera, **as I was saying** / **by the way** ?

② Yes, but **by the way** / **as I was saying** before, I really think I could paint that myself.

③ No, I don't hate all modern art. I **actually** / **as I was saying** really like some street art.

④ **Anyway** / **Actually**, to get back to my question, would you pay two million dollars for that?

⑤ These paintings aren't the reason I come here. I **anyway** / **actually** prefer the architecture.

65.3 RESPOND TO THE AUDIO, SPEAKING OUT LOUD AND USING THE MOST APPROPRIATE DISCOURSE MARKERS

You like Manet's paintings, don't you?

Yes, but ___*actually*___ this painting is by Monet.

① The brushstrokes in the sky are amazing.

Aren't they? _____, where are we going for dinner?

② It's too early to eat! Do you like this painting?

Yes, but _____, I'm getting really hungry.

③ I think we've seen everything.

We haven't, _____. There's another floor!

④ Are you tired of paintings yet?

_____, I'm really inspired. I love this landscape.

⑤ I agree. This is the best painting here.

_____, we should head back to the car soon.

65.4 READ THE ARTICLE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

The show is by well-known established artists.
True ☐ False ☑

1 The first room in the show contained paintings.
True ☐ False ☐

2 There is a small room before the second room.
True ☐ False ☐

3 There were many artists in the second room.
True ☐ False ☐

4 The young performer will make you happy.
True ☐ False ☐

5 The final room makes you feel very relaxed.
True ☐ False ☐

6 The reviewer recommends the exhibition.
True ☐ False ☐

ART SCENE

Dean Hill Art School Exhibition

The opening of the Dean Hill Art Exhibition highlighted the mix of influences on these creative final-year students. The paintings in the first room were clearly inspired by classical artists and the more modern neoclassical movement.

From this more traditional first room, you are led to a small anteroom to wait for the next "performance." You are then taken to a dark room with lots of ropes hanging from the ceiling. Without giving too much away for future visitors to the show, you will see a young boy dressed in blue and red and you will laugh and probably be reminded of a certain superhero.

The next room was another complete change. This time an angry antisocial woman made us all feel very uncomfortable with the idea of progress in a modern world. It was a typical postmodern performance.

A hugely varied exhibition by talented, proactive artists. Well worth a visit.

65.5 MATCH THE BEGINNINGS OF THE SENTENCES TO THE CORRECT ENDINGS

"Ante-" and "pre-" as in "anteroom" and "preschool"

1 "Super-" as in "superhero" and "supernatural"

2 "Anti-" as in "antisocial" and "antibiotics"

3 "Pro-" as in "proactive" and "proceed"

4 "Neo-" as in "neoclassical" and "neoliberal"

5 "Post-" as in "postmodern" and "postwar"

means "beyond."

means "for."

means "after."

mean "before."

means "against."

means "new."

65.6 FILL IN THE GAPS USING THE PREFIXES IN THE PANEL

To find a career in your field, you need to be very ___*pro*___active.

① Many children go to _____school before they are five years old.

② My husband is 40 years old, but he still loves _____hero comics and films.

③ A lot of the architecture here is _____classical and looks Roman.

④ I think that dropping litter in public is extremely _____social.

⑤ Before the ceremony began, we were told to wait in a small _____room.

⑥ Many 20th-century art movements have been called _____modern.

| post | pre | anti | neo | super | ante | ~~pro~~ |

65 ✓ CHECKLIST

⚙ Informal discourse markers ☐   **Aa** Advanced prefixes ☐   🧩 Structuring conversation ☐

↻ REVIEW THE ENGLISH YOU HAVE LEARNED IN UNITS 62–65

NEW LANGUAGE	SAMPLE SENTENCE	☑	UNIT
ELLIPSIS	She went to see the play and loved it. Seen the film?	☐	62.1, 62.7
SUBSTITUTION WITH "ONE / ONES" AND "SOME"	Do you need a pencil? I have one. Would you like a cookie? There are some left.	☐	63.1, 63.3
SUBSTITUTION WITH "DO" AND "SO"	You read a lot last month. I did, too. Is Mary going to come? I hope so.	☐	63.5, 63.8
REDUCED INFINITIVES AND DROPPED INFINITIVE CLAUSES	I don't really want to. I asked her to buy me tickets and she agreed.	☐	64.1, 64.3
REDUCED VERBS WITH COMPLEMENTS	We want to see our friend's band play, but can't afford to.	☐	64.5
INFORMAL DISCOURSE MARKERS	Actually, it sold at auction for $2 million.	☐	65.1