

WRITING DEVELOPMENT

In her book, *The Writing Revolution* Judith Hochman tells us that students' problems with reading comprehension, as well with writing essays, occur because they have not been taught systematically to write ... to which her book gives a step-by-step guide.

The Writing Development exercises here are adapted from her programme.

Manifest Destiny, the Frontier and the Expansion of the United States

3. Subordinating conjunctions I – because, but, so

As we have seen, a subordinating conjunction joins two sentences together, so that the resultant sentence is more interesting, and carries more information.

The three basic subordinating conjunctions are 'because', 'but' and 'so' (in the sense of therefore), eg:

- “O’Sullivan developed the idea of Manifest Destiny because he believed it the will of Providence.”
- “O’Sullivan developed the idea of Manifest Destiny, but it was taken up by the entire nation.”
- “O’Sullivan developed the idea of Manifest Destiny, so America set itself to conquer the continent.”

'Because' is essential in any answer which requires you to 'explain', and 'so' is vital in explaining consequences.

1. Complete the following sentence stems:

- Americans believed they had the RIGHT but the DUTY to populate the Plains because _____.
- Americans believed they had the RIGHT but the DUTY to populate the Plains, but _____.
- Americans believed they had the RIGHT but the DUTY to populate the Plains, so _____.

- The historian Frederick Jackson Turner believed that the Frontier created America because _____.
- The historian Frederick Jackson Turner believed that the Frontier created America, but _____.
- The historian Frederick Jackson Turner believed that the Frontier created America, so _____.

2. Develop 'because', 'but' and 'so' sentences for the following ideas:

- “the land of the free and the home of the brave”
- the untamed West
- “a crossroads of cultures”