

**SIGNAL WORDS** help us follow the writer's thinking.

Stephanie fractured her arm and cannot drive a car. \_\_\_\_\_ she takes a taxicab everywhere she has to go.

Signal words such as **therefore**, **instead** and **so** can all be used in the fill-in the blank in the sentence above. These signal words will show the cause-and-effect relationship between the two sentences. One event leads to another.

The signal word **but** will not work as it will **not** be able to show the cause-and-effect relationship that an author might be trying to project.

However, if the author was trying to show how determined or independent Stephanie is, then **but** might have worked.

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**Now it is your turn to show how SIGNAL words may give different types of directions.**

**Asha washed her long hair. Then she went to iron her clothes.**

Then shows the order in which things happened.

**Payal wanted to buy a video game. But she decided to save her money to buy a bicycle instead.**

But shows a change of mind.

**Last evening Rajani had two problems. First, she needed a ride to the art class as her parents were running late. Second, she had to find her lost drawing pad.**

First and second show a list of things.