

# Using Connectors in English Writing as a Nonnative Speaker

Date & Venue

Higashi-Hiroshima Campus

Participants:

HU researchers, particularly English teachers.

\*Graduate students are welcome.

**16:20 - 17:50**

**Wednesday, October 2, 2019**

Library Hall at the Central Library

"The misuse of logical connectives is an almost universal feature of ESL students' writing" Crewe (1990:317). A number of researchers have said that teaching methods may be the reason that students use connectors like "however", "therefore" and "hence" incorrectly (Crewe, 1990; Granger & Tyson, 1996; Leedham & Cai, 2013; and Milton & Tsang, 1993). I will present my findings from a survey of four school textbooks used in Germany which showed that connectors are presented as necessary for an argument and that they can be used to improve writing style. Each textbook went against research-based advice for teaching English connectors and instead gave a direct translation of German writing conventions. In this interactive talk, we'll compare experiences and writing cultures in the UK/US, Germany and Japan. I will conclude with how to use connectors in English more like a native speaker.

Instructor

**Carrie Ankerstein, PhD**

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Dr Carrie Ankerstein holds a PhD in Psycholinguistics from the University of Sheffield; an MPhil in Applied Linguistics from the University of Cambridge and a BA in German Linguistics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Albert-Ludwigs Universität in Freiburg, Germany. Her research interests include implicit and explicit language processing and second language acquisition.

