**Linking words** are the glue that holds words, phrases and clauses together.

**Read the letter Erica wrote to Matthew.** In this letter you will find 11 linking words (as if = counts as one). Underline all linking words and write down the translation for each word on the next page.

Hi Matthew,

How are you? I’m writing you because I want to tell you about a very interesting article about going to Mars I read yesterday. I know you are passionate about space and sci-fi things.

Apparently, American billionaire Dennis Tito has plans to send a couple on a mission to Mars. Tito and his team don’t want just any couple on this 501-day return trip to the planet. They want two peas in a pod: the ideal candidates would be people who can cope with being together all the time, since they will be a confined space for about a year and a half. I would never be able to do that, even if they paid me £ 10.000. How about you?

The facilities will be very basic, as they want to save money wherever they can. For the same reason, there is no actual landing on Mars. So you will go all the way to the Red Planet and back, without ever leaving your spaceship. No leg-stretching stroll, no glorious holiday snaps by your Martian sandcastle to show the family, no ‘meet the neighbours’! Even though the trip is going to be very expensive, I wonder if there will be any excitement in it at all. After the fun of the first week in space, all you’ll have around is your partner. I would rather spend a year in Spain to enjoy the sunshine.

The risk of flying in the face of danger under such precarious conditions is that you will die of boredom before radiation can even get to you! If only they had Wi-Fi in space!

Well, although I’m not a fan of the idea, I thought you might want to read about it.

Talk to you soon.

Love,  
Erica

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Linking word | Use | Translation |
| After | Tijd |  |
| Before | Tijd |  |
| Until | Tijd | Totdat |
| Ever since | Tijd | Sindsdien |
| Just | Tijd | Net |
| When | Tijd | Toen, wanneer |
| Yet | Tijd (vraagzinnen en ontkenningen) | Al, nog |
|  |  |  |
| Although | Tegenstelling (formeler) |  |
| Even though | Tegenstelling (sterkere vorm) |  |
| Though | Tegenstelling (informeel) | Hoewel, echter |
| While | Tegenstelling | Terwijl |
| But | Tegenstelling |  |
| However | Tegenstelling | Echter |
|  |  |  |
| Since | Reden/oorzaak |  |
| Because | Reden/oorzaak |  |
| As | Reden/oorzaak |  |
| That’s why | Reden/oorzaak | Daarom |
|  |  |  |
| Even if | Voorwaarde | Zelfs als |
| If | Voorwaarde | Als |
| Unless | Voorwaarde | Tenzij |
|  |  |  |
| Rather (than) | Vergelijking |  |
| Whether | Vergelijking |  |
| Instead (of) | Vergelijking | In plaats van |
|  |  |  |
| So |  | Dus |
| As if |  | Alsof |
| If only |  | Was het maar zo dat |
| Needless to say |  | Vanzelfsprekend |
| Of course |  |  |
| Still |  | Toch, nog steeds |

**KEY**

**On smartboard**

1. I failed my Maths test. I had studied the wrong chapter. (oorzaak)
2. They climbed the mountain. It was very windy. (tegenstelling)
3. She assumed they were going to church. They were all dressed up. (reden)
4. Don’t call this number. It’s an emergency. (voorwaarde)

Hi Matthew,

How are you? I’m writing you **because** I want to tell you about a very interesting article about going to Mars I read yesterday. I know you are passionate about space and sci-fi things.

Apparently, American billionaire Dennis Tito has plans to send a couple on a mission to Mars. Tito and his team don’t want just any couple on this 501-day return trip to the planet. They want two peas in a pod: the ideal candidates would be people who can cope with being together all the time, **since** they will be a confined space for about a year and a half. I would never be able to do that, **even if** they paid me £ 10.000. How about you?

The facilities will be very basic, **as** they want to save money wherever they can. For the same reason, there is no actual landing on Mars. So you will go all the way to the Red Planet and back, without ever leaving your spaceship. No leg-stretching stroll, no glorious holiday snaps by your Martian sandcastle to show the family, no ‘meet the neighbours’! **Even though** the trip is going to be very expensive, I wonder if there will be any excitement in it at all. **After** the fun of the first week in space, all you’ll have around is your partner. I would **rather** spend a year in Spain to enjoy the sunshine.

The risk of flying in the face of danger under such precarious conditions is that you will die of boredom **before** radiation can even get to you! **If only** they had Wi-Fi in space!

Well, **although** I’m not a fan of the idea, I thought you might want to read about it.

Talk to you soon.

Love,  
Erica

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Linking word | Use | Translation |
| After | Tijd | Nadat |
| Before | Tijd | Voordat |
| Until | Tijd | Totdat |
| Ever since | Tijd | Sindsdien |
| Just | Tijd | Net |
| When | Tijd | Toen, wanneer |
| Yet | Tijd (vraagzinnen en ontkenningen) | Al, nog |
|  |  |  |
| Although | Tegenstelling (formeler) | Hoewel |
| Even though | Tegenstelling (sterkere vorm) | Ondanks, ookal, hoewel |
| Though | Tegenstelling (informeel) | Hoewel, echter |
| While | Tegenstelling | Terwijl |
| But | Tegenstelling | Maar |
| However | Tegenstelling | Echter |
|  |  |  |
| Since | Reden/oorzaak | Aangezien |
| Because | Reden/oorzaak | Omdat, vanwege |
| As | Reden/oorzaak | Aangezien |
| That’s why | Reden/oorzaak | Daarom |
|  |  |  |
| Even if | Voorwaarde | Zelfs als |
| If | Voorwaarde | Als |
| Unless | Voorwaarde | Tenzij |
|  |  |  |
| Rather (than) | Vergelijking | Liever (dan) |
| Whether | Vergelijking | Of |
| Instead (of) | Vergelijking | In plaats van |
|  |  |  |
| So |  | Dus |
| As if |  | Alsof |
| If only |  | Was het maar zo dat |
| Needless to say |  | Vanzelfsprekend |
| Of course |  | Natuurlijk |
| Still |  | Toch, nog steeds |