BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Take an English class on discourse markers with Sian



Language quiz

Now let's practise what you learned in the lesson! Choose the best discourse marker to complete these spoken sentences. Here's an example to help you:

So he took me to a restaurant – it was lovely and the food was amazing – you should go there. **Mind you / Anyway / By the way,** then he proposed!

So he took me to a restaurant – it was lovely and the food was amazing – you should go there. **Anyway,** then he proposed!

- 1. So, I made dinner for Jin last night, and you know how I'm normally a terrible cook? Well, **mind you / actually / by the way,** it was really good!
- 2. Yeah so the party was really good everyone was there. Oh **by the way / to tell you the truth / mind you**, before I forget, someone phoned for you.
- 3. I can't believe it rained every day of our holiday, **by the way / anyway / mind you** we did go on holiday in the middle of winter!
- 4. So **basically / mind you / come to think of it**, we aren't making enough money and so we are going to have to close the business.
- 5. I haven't seen Sophia in a long time, Is she ok? Yes, I think so. But... by the way / come to think of it / basically I haven't seen for a few weeks either! That's odd.

Now you can check your answers at the bottom of the next page.

Speaking and writing practice

Now it's time to practise writing and speaking with a friend. Write a dialogue between two friends in a café who are talking about their weekend plans. Include as many of these discourse markers as you can. Don't forget to watch Sian's live lesson again to check you are using them appropriately ©.

anyway	come to think of it	basically	to tell you the truth
mind you	actually	by the way	if you ask me

When you have finished you and a friend can perform your conversation to another friend and ask them to see how many discourse markers they hear you use.

Answers to exercise on page 1

- 1. So, I made dinner for Jin last night, and you know how I'm normally a terrible cook? Well, **actually** it was really good!
- 2. Yeah so the party was really good everyone was there. Oh **by the way**, before I forget, someone phoned for you.
- 3. I can't believe it rained every day of our holiday, **mind you** we did go on holiday in the middle of winter!
- 4. So **basically**, we aren't making enough money and so we are going to have to close the business.
- 5. I haven't seen Sophia in a long time, Is she ok? Yes, I think so. But... **come to think of it** I haven't seen for a few weeks either! That's odd.