

6. _____ he is a great asset to our firm.
7. Charging them so much is _____ daylight robbery.
8. So you think she's slightly difficult at times, do you? I find her _____ impossible.

3. *Discourse Markers that Express Doubt or Possibility*

it is anyone's guess (*informal*)
 it is quite likely that
 it may well be that
 it remains to be seen
 presumably

1. They have promised to mend their ways and to try harder. _____ whether they will.
2. I was struck by the fact that the author submitted the manuscript without any footnotes. _____ they do not exist.
3. We have heard nothing from him for some years. _____ he was killed in the war.
4. His presidency has got off to a good start. _____ what the rest of it will be like.
5. John hasn't come back yet. _____ he has been forced to do overtime.

4. *Discourse Markers that Introduce New Facts:*

curiously enough, strangely enough
 for that matter
 for the record (*informal*)
 in fact
 in the event
 it emerges that
 it is a question of
 it just so happens that
 it transpires that
 needless to say
 ...only to (be)
 surprising as it may seem
 that is/that's just the point
 the fact is (that)
 the thing is (that) (*informal*)

1. All that day they were waiting for the doctor to arrive. _____ he didn't come.

2. The plane crashed from a great height. _____ no one was hurt.
3. It is unclear how much the Irangate scandal will affect the position of ex-President Ronald Reagan or, _____, of ex-Vice-President George Bush.
4. For Far Eastern societies harmony is more important than Western-style democracy. _____, Asia is not equipped to swallow Western liberalism whole.
5. From the new evidence _____ he was innocent.
6. The Muscovites look with envy at the luxury goods in the shop-windows, out of reach of all but a lucky few — or, _____, of the average Western correspondent.
7. This is not a task to be embarked on lightly. _____ much preparation and planning.
8. Some people think that if I paid my employees more money I'd get better work out of them. But _____: no matter how much I pay them, they'll work badly.
9. Wilfred Owen survived years of war, _____ killed one week before the Armistice.
10. In that country things have not got better for fifty years — or, _____, even for five hundred years.
11. He asked her to lend him a thousand dollars. _____ he was unsuccessful.
12. I like chocolates: _____ I adore them.
13. The Institute for Research into UFOs has helped to enlighten hundreds of people. _____, and to dispel doubts about its existence, I would like to point out that it is now based in Somerville, New Jersey, and that it was visited by myself and my wife in 1990.
14. He sent the War Office details of his new invention, _____ see them locked away until the end of WW2.
15. Today's vandalism (and inner-city riots, _____) is the work of those of us who fail to tame their instincts.
16. Foreigners in France have good cause to worry. _____ new, discriminatory legislation is now before the French Parliament, and it has every chance of getting through.
17. Now that the files have been opened _____ she was working as a double agent.
18. To lead our department, we would need a person with very special qualifications. _____ we have such a candidate.
19. I don't like his parents much. _____ I don't like *him* very much either.