

To improve writing, writers must smoothly and logically connect sentences and paragraphs. Transitional words and phrases bridge ideas together and clarify the relationship between thoughts. Using the following list of transitions will support coherence and clarity between sentences and paragraphs.

TRANSITIONAL WORDS AND PHRASES

ADDITION (continuing a common line of reasoning):

additionally, in addition, also, furthermore, moreover, similarly, likewise, in the same way, again, equally important, following this further, in the light of ... it's easy to see...

CONTRAST/QUALIFICATION:

but, yet, however, although, whereas, despite, in spite of, at the same time, conversely, instead, nevertheless, on the contrary, on the other hand, in contrast, notwithstanding, even so, regardless

CAUSE AND EFFECT:

since, because, seeing that, hence, thus, as a result, consequently, accordingly, it follows that, under these circumstances, owing to the fact, therefore, on account of, for this reason

CHRONOLOGICAL CHAINS:

first... second... third; generally... furthermore... finally; in the first place... also... lastly; to be sure... pursuing this further... at last; in the first place... just in the same way... then

TIME:

before, earlier, formerly, previously, recently, looking back, once, from that moment, as soon as, immediately, now, at length, currently, frequently, occasionally, meanwhile, during, simultaneously, subsequently, afterward, later, after a time, in the future, from this day forward

EXAMPLES:

for example, for instance, namely, specifically, to illustrate, in particular, as a case in point

EMPHASIS:

undoubtedly, in fact, even, indeed, of course, truly, after all, obviously, that is to say, actually

ALTERNATION & CONCESSION:

or, nor, otherwise, as...so, both...and, either...or, neither...nor, not only...but also, admittedly, provided that, whether, as long as, anyhow, it is true, be that as it may, naturally, granted

SIGNALING CONCLUSION:

in brief, by and large, on the whole, all in all, in short, to sum up, in closing, in essence, ultimately, as has been noted, in view of, conclusively, as has been said, in final consideration