

Transitions



Transitions are bridges between what has been read and what is about to be read. Transitions help readers move from sentence to sentence; they also alert readers to more global connections of ideas—those between paragraphs or even larger blocks of text.

Commonly Used Transitions

- **To signal sequence:** again, also, and, and then, besides, finally, first...second...third...etc, furthermore, last, moreover, still, too, A, B, C, and so forth. Next, then, following this, at this time, now, at this point, after, afterward, subsequently, finally, consequently, previously, before this, simultaneously, concurrently, thus, therefore, next, soon
- **To signal changes in time:** after a few days, after a while, afterward, as long as, as soon as, at last, at that time, before, earlier, immediately, in the meantime, in the past, lately, later, meanwhile, now, presently, simultaneously, since, so far, soon, then, thereafter, until, when, after a few hours, finally, previously, formerly, first (second, etc.), next
- **To signal comparison:** again, also, in the same way, likewise, once more, similarly, similar to, by comparison, where, compared to, up against, balanced against
- **To signal contrast:** although, but, despite, even though, however, in contrast, in spite of, instead, nevertheless, nonetheless, on the contrary, on the one hand, on the other hand, regardless, still, though, yet, whereas, conversely, although this may be true
- **To signal examples:** after all, even, for example, for instance, indeed, in fact, of course, specifically, such as, the following example, to illustrate, in this case, in another case, on this occasion, in this situation, take the case of, to demonstrate, as an illustration
- **To signal cause and effect:** accordingly, as a result, because, consequently, for this purpose, hence, so, then, therefore, thus, to this end
- **To signal place:** above, adjacent to, below, beyond, closer to, elsewhere, far, farther on, here, near, nearby, opposite to, there, to the left, to the right
- **To signal concession:** although it is true that, granted that, I admit that, it may appear that, naturally, of course, even though
- **To signal summary, repetition, or conclusion:** as a result, as has been noted, as I have said, as mentioned earlier, as we have seen, in any event, in conclusion, in other words, in short, on the whole, therefore, to summarize, in brief, summing up, to conclude, as I have shown, hence, accordingly, thus, as a result, consequently, on the whole
- **To signal additions:** and, again, and then, besides, equally important, finally, further, furthermore, nor, too, next, lastly, what's more, moreover, in addition, first (second, etc.),
- **To prove:** because, for, since, for the same reason, obviously, evidently, furthermore, moreover, besides, indeed, in fact, in addition, in any case, that is
- **To show exception:** yet, still, however, nevertheless, in spite of, despite, of course, once in a while, sometimes

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