

USING TRANSITIONS TO CONNECT IDEAS

A transition is a word or a phrase that connects two parts of a piece of writing. Use transition words at the beginning of a sentence followed by a comma.

1. Transitions to show time/chronological order

| | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| | <i>first</i> | <i>meanwhile</i> | <i>soon</i> | <i>then</i> | <i>in the future</i> |
| <i>after</i> | <i>second</i> | <i>today</i> | <i>later</i> | <i>next</i> | <i>in the past</i> |
| <i>at</i> | <i>third</i> | <i>tomorrow</i> | <i>afterward</i> | <i>as soon as</i> | <i>recently</i> |
| <i>before</i> | <i>last of all</i> | <i>next week</i> | <i>immediately</i> | <i>eventually</i> | |
| <i>during</i> | <i>until</i> | <i>yesterday</i> | <i>finally</i> | <i>last of all</i> | |

2. Transitions to show spatial order

| | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|
| <i>beside</i> | <i>next to</i> | <i>in front</i> | <i>to the right</i> | <i>behind</i> |
| <i>in the middle</i> | <i>on top</i> | <i>beneath</i> | <i>beside</i> | |

3. Transitions to show degree order

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>more</i> | <i>least</i> | <i>more importantly</i> | <i>least important</i> |
| <i>less</i> | <i>most</i> | <i>most important</i> | |

4. Transitions to compare/to show comparisons/to show similarities

in the same way *likewise* *as* *also* *similarly*

5. Transitions to show cause and effect order

one cause *another effect* *as a result* *consequently* *therefore*

6. Transitions for classification

another group *the first type* *one kind* *other sorts* *other types* *other kinds*

7. Transitions to introduce examples and add information

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| <i>for example</i> | <i>another example</i> | <i>along with</i> | <i>finally</i> |
| <i>one example</i> | <i>in addition</i> | <i>as well</i> | <i>a final example</i> |
| <i>for instance</i> | <i>additionally</i> | <i>also</i> | |

8. Transitions to introduce a conclusion, summary, or generalization

In conclusion *Therefore* *As a result* *Finally* *In summary* *In general*

9. Transitions to show differences/to contrast/to show a contradiction

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>nonetheless</i> | <i>despite</i> | <i>instead</i> | <i>on the other hand</i> |
| <i>nevertheless</i> | <i>however</i> | <i>on the contrary</i> | <i>in contrast</i> |
| | <i>in spite of this</i> | <i>different from</i> | <i>unlike this</i> |
| <i>although</i> | <i>otherwise</i> | <i>yet</i> | <i>another difference</i> |