

TRANSITIONAL WORDS AND PHRASES

Transitions are used to help your writing flow so that it doesn't smack the reader in the face! Whether it's from sentence to sentence, paragraph to paragraph, or ideas to ideas, transitions are meant to help you connect all your ideas together – it gives everything a relationship and flow.

So, here are some common transitions based on the function they serve:

Addition:

Also, besides, furthermore, in addition, moreover, again

Consequence:

Accordingly, as a result, consequently, hence, otherwise, so then, therefore, thus, thereupon

Summarizing:

After all, all in all, all things considered, briefly, by and large, in any case, in any event, in brief, in conclusion, on the whole, in short, in summary, in the final analysis, in the long run, on balance, to sum up, to summarize, finally

Generalizing:

As a rule, as usual, for the most part, generally, generally speaking, ordinarily, usually

Restatement:

In essence, in other words, namely, that is, that is to say, in short, in brief, to put it differently

Contrast and Comparison:

Contrast, by the same token, conversely, instead, likewise, on one hand, on the other hand, on the contrary, rather, similarly, yet, but however, still, nevertheless, in contrast, likewise, similar, similarly, moreover

Sequence:

At first, first of all, to begin with, first off, in the first place, at the same time, for now, for the time being, the next step, second, secondly, third, thirdly, in time, in turn, later on, meanwhile, next, then, soon, the meantime, later, while, earlier, simultaneously, afterward, in conclusion

Diversion:

By the way, incidentally

Illustration:

For example, for instance, for one thing

Direction:

Here, there, aforementioned, over there, beyond, nearly, opposite, under, above, to the left, to the right, in the distance

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Diversion:

By the way, incidentally

Illustration:

For example, for instance, for one thing

Direction:

Here, there, aforementioned, over there, beyond, nearby, opposite, under, above, to the left, to the right, in the distance