



Transitional Words and Phrases

Transitional words and phrases fit between sentences and paragraphs to clarify how ideas are related. Below are some of the most common transitions and the connections they make.

Purpose	Transitional Words and Phrases
addition	first, second, third...; also; and; on top of that; too; plus; in addition; what is more; besides; additionally; as well; likewise; too; along with; furthermore; moreover; again; another; next; finally
cause and effect	accordingly; as a result; because; consequently; hence; if...then; since; so; therefore; for this reason; thus
comparison	in the same way; equally; also; too; similarly; like; as; likewise; actually; among; even; still; also; in comparison to; in the same manner; compared with; at the same time; more than; less than
concession	of course; naturally; it may be the case that; granted; it is true that; certainly; it may appear
conclusion	finally; for these reasons; in short; as a result; as demonstrated; to summarize; to conclude; in sum
contrast	but; still; however; on one hand...on the other hand; on the contrary; yet; nevertheless; despite; in spite of; even though; in contrast; instead; actually; although; besides; contrary to; otherwise; rather; still; conversely; regardless; in another sense; instead; alternatively; whereas; at the same time
emphasis	indeed; in fact; surely; necessarily; certainly; without any doubt; in any event; truly; again; to repeat; as noted; in short; of course; that is; above all; in other words; clearly
enumeration	first(ly)... second(ly)... finally... ; first... next... then... ; on top of (that); to begin with; more important(ly);
exemplification	for example; for instance; to illustrate; as an illustration; to demonstrate; take, for example; to be specific; such as; consider the case; as evidence
place (spatial relationships)	near (to); far (from); across (from); opposite (from); near(by); in the foreground; in front (of); in the background; in the rear (of); toward(s); around; beside; next to; alongside; in between; on one side; to the right/left; in the center; above; below; beyond; surrounding; inside; outside; here; there
purpose	for this reason; for this purpose; so that; in order to;
repetition	to repeat; in other words; that is; again; as noted earlier; in short; once more; to reiterate
sequence or time	first, second, third...; now; then; before; after; afterward(s); earlier; later; immediately; soon; next; shortly; thereafter; in the future; meanwhile; initially; concurrently; following; subsequently; at that time; finally; as soon as; while; gradually; suddenly; previously; during; once; until; formerly; as soon as; progressively; when
summary	as shown; as noted earlier; in other words; that is to say; in brief; to sum up; in short; on the whole; therefore; to recapitulate; to summarize