

## Using Transitions

Body paragraphs should be organized in such a way that each sentence relates to the other sentences. Using transition words and phrases helps the reader clearly understand how one sentence relates to the other. Transitions also help the reader make the connection from one paragraph to the next. As a result, transition words and phrases keep the writing smooth and give it continuity.

Transition words and phrases for use in different parts of your essay are listed below. Note that some are repeated; they are appropriate for use in more than one part of your essay.

Transitions Used Within Paragraphs	Transitions Used from one Paragraph to the Next	Transitions for Examples	Transitions to Begin Conclusions	Transitions to Begin Anecdotes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• therefore</li> <li>• however</li> <li>• furthermore</li> <li>• then</li> <li>• next/following</li> <li>• in addition/in addition to/also</li> <li>• in contrast</li> <li>• similarly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• first/to begin with/for one thing</li> <li>• second/secondly</li> <li>• lastly/finally</li> <li>• furthermore</li> <li>• following/in addition</li> <li>• equally important</li> <li>• thus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• for example</li> <li>• for instance</li> <li>• to illustrate</li> <li>• in particular</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in conclusion</li> <li>• to conclude</li> <li>• for those reasons</li> <li>• on the whole</li> <li>• as you can see</li> <li>• as stated above</li> <li>• therefore</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on one occasion</li> <li>• on incident comes to mind</li> <li>• I recollect/I remember</li> </ul>
Transitions Words of Addition	Transitions Words of Contrast	Transitions Words of Cause-and- effect	Transitions Words of Illustration	Transitions Words of Consequence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• first of all</li> <li>• also</li> <li>• in addition/in addition to/also</li> <li>• next</li> <li>• moreover</li> <li>• furthermore</li> <li>• last of all</li> <li>• finally</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• however</li> <li>• in contrast</li> <li>• on the other hand</li> <li>• despite</li> <li>• although</li> <li>• even though/though</li> <li>• rather than</li> <li>• on the contrary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• because of</li> <li>• since</li> <li>• as a result of/as a result</li> <li>• therefore</li> <li>• thus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• for example</li> <li>• for instance</li> <li>• to illustrate</li> <li>• on the whole</li> <li>• as you can see</li> <li>• as stated above</li> <li>• therefore</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• accordingly</li> <li>• as a result/as a result of</li> <li>• consequently</li> <li>• for this reason</li> <li>• hence</li> <li>• subsequently</li> <li>• thus</li> </ul>
Transitional Words of Comparison	Transitional Words of Sequence	Transitional Words of Generalization	Transitional Words of Emphasis	Transitional Words of Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• after all</li> <li>• by comparison</li> <li>• compared to</li> <li>• in contrast</li> <li>• on the other hand</li> <li>• whereas</li> <li>• however</li> <li>• both</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• after - first</li> <li>• afterward - second</li> <li>• consequently - so forth</li> <li>• finally - soon</li> <li>• following this - then</li> <li>• next - therefore</li> <li>• previously</li> <li>• so forth</li> <li>• subsequently</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• as a rule</li> <li>• as usual</li> <li>• generally</li> <li>• generally speaking</li> <li>• ordinarily</li> <li>• usually</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• absolutely</li> <li>• always</li> <li>• certainly</li> <li>• in any case</li> <li>• obviously</li> <li>• positively</li> <li>• undeniably</li> <li>• without a doubt</li> <li>• without reservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• after</li> <li>• and then</li> <li>• finally</li> <li>• first</li> <li>• formerly</li> <li>• immediately</li> <li>• later</li> <li>• next</li> <li>• previously</li> <li>• thereafter</li> </ul>