

## TRANSITIONS

Transitions make writing more coherent by establishing connections between ideas and indicating how the ideas relate to each other. Without these cues, the reader may be unsure of how sentences correlate.

Transitions can be used between sections, paragraphs, or within sentences or paragraphs. To transition sections of a longer paper, a paragraph is used. Within paragraphs, sentences are used. The most recognizable transitions are the ones used within a sentence or paragraph. These are generally short phrases or words.

While transitions are very important, try not to worry about them while writing your first draft; your primary focus is to first get your ideas on paper. Check for connections between sections, paragraphs, and sentences when you are ready to revise.

## TRANSITIONAL WORDS AND PHRASES

Relationship/Function:	Words/Phrases:
Adding	and, besides, in addition, also, too, moreover, further, furthermore, next, first, second, third, finally, last, again, and then, likewise, similarly
Comparing	similarly, likewise, in like manner, at the same time, in the same way, just as...so too, another X like, a similar X, comparable
Contrasting	but, yet, however, still, nevertheless, on the other hand, on the contrary, in contrast, conversely, in another sense, instead, rather, notwithstanding, though, whereas, after all, although, otherwise, but another, alternatively, even so, though this may be
Emphasizing/Weakening	indeed, in fact, above all, add to this, and also, even more, in any event, in other words, that is, obviously, naturally, incidentally, at least, it seems, remarkably, without doubt, importantly, certainly, although, at any rate, still, even though, in spite of, to be sure*, granted*
Giving Examples	for example, for instance, to illustrate, that is, namely, specifically, in particular, this can be seen in, an instance of this
Cause/Effect and Purpose	thus, therefore, consequently, because of this, hence, as a result, then, so, and so, accordingly, in consequence, to do this, so that to this end, with this object, for this purpose, for that reason, because of this
Showing Place/Direction	over, above, inside, next to, underneath, to the left, to the right, just behind, beyond, in the distance
Showing Time	meanwhile, soon, later, afterward, now, in the past, then, next, before, during, while, finally, after this, at last, since then, presently, temporarily, after a short time, at the same time, in the meantime
Summarizing	to sum up, in sum, in brief, on the whole, as has been noted, as has been said, in conclusion, that is, in general, generally, to recapitulate, to conclude, in other words, in short, after all, finally, for these reasons

\* These may be too informal for certain papers. Always keep this in mind when choosing words.