

# Transitions



Writing Center

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## What are transitions and how are they used?

Transitions are phrases or words that are used to connect one idea to another:

- within a sentence
- between sentences
- between paragraphs
- between sections in a paper.

Different transitions connect ideas in different ways, as shown below.

<p><u>To imply conflict:</u> <i>but, however, in contrast, (and) yet, while, whereas, conversely, on the other hand, still</i></p>	<p><b>To signal controversy</b></p>	<p><u>To imply concession:</u> <i>but, even so, nevertheless, although, even though, despite (this), admittedly, albeit</i></p>
<p><u>To imply replacement:</u> <i>(or) at least, (or) rather, instead</i></p>		<p><u>To imply dismissal:</u> <i>either way, in either case, all the same, in any event, at any rate</i></p>

<p><u>Continuation:</u> <i>previously, after (this), eventually, next, then, before (this), subsequently</i></p>	<p><b>To signal sequence</b></p>	<p><u>Summation:</u> <i>in summary, as was previously stated, therefore, so, consequently, thus, briefly, hence, on the whole</i></p>
<p><u>Conclusion:</u> <i>finally, eventually, at last, in the end, lastly, in conclusion</i></p>		<p><u>Numerical:</u> <i>in the (first) place, initially, secondly, to start with, first of all</i></p>
<p><u>Resumption:</u> <i>anyhow, anyway, at any rate, to get back to the point, to resume</i></p>		<p><u>Digression:</u> <i>by the way, incidentally, to change the subject</i></p>
<p><u>Time:</u> <i>after a while, as long as, as soon as, at that time, before, immediately, in the meantime, lately, now, soon</i></p>		<p><u>Place:</u> <i>above, adjacent to, below, beyond, near, opposite, there, to the left (right)</i></p>

<p><u>To add information:</u>  <i>moreover, in addition, also, besides, furthermore, and, too, not only...but also</i></p>	<p><b>To present information</b></p>	<p><u>To introduce information:</u>  <i>such as, for example, as, like, especially, particularly, notably, including</i></p>
<p><u>To refer to information:</u>  <i>as for (this), considering (this), concerning (this), regarding (this), the fact that</i></p>		<p><u>To show similarity:</u>  <i>similarly, likewise, in the same way, by the same token, equally</i></p>
<p><u>To show contrast:</u>  <i>although, but, despite, in spite of, instead, on the one hand...on the other hand, regardless</i></p>		<p><u>To identify:</u>  <i>that is, namely, specifically, thus</i></p>
<p><u>To clarify:</u>  <i>that is (to say), I mean, in other words, (to) put (it) another way</i></p>		<p><u>To emphasize:</u>  <i>even more, above all, indeed, besides, more importantly</i></p>
<p><u>To introduce examples:</u>  <i>for example, for instance, this is shown by</i></p>		

<p><u>To state cause/reason:</u>  <i>being that, since, as, in as much as, due to, in view of, owing to, that, for, in that</i></p>	<p><b>To signal cause and effect</b></p>	<p><u>To state condition:</u>  <i>if, provided that, given that, even if, only if, unless, as/so long as, granted that</i></p>
<p><u>To state effect/result:</u>  <i>so, so that, for this reason, hence, therefore, consequently, accordingly, as a result of (this)</i></p>		<p><u>To state purpose:</u>  <i>so, so that, in order to, for fear that, with this in mind, in the hope that, lest</i></p>
<p><u>To state consequence:</u>  <i>then, if so, in that case, if not, otherwise, under those circumstances</i></p>		

*Please remember:* This is not an exhaustive list. Other words and phrases can accomplish similar effects in your writing. Try to use a variety of words.