

Using Transitions

Transitional words and phrases can create powerful links between ideas in your paper and can help your reader understand the logic of your paper.

However, these words all have different meanings, nuances, and connotations.

Before using a particular transitional word in your paper, be sure you understand its meaning and usage completely and be sure that it's the right match for the logic in your paper.

Sentence Structure and Transitions

Repetition of key words and phrases links sentences and paragraphs.

Parallel structure (the repetition of a sentence pattern or a grammatical

Transitional Words and Phrases

Type of transition	Examples
Addition	furthermore moreover too also in the second place again in addition even more next further last, lastly finally besides and, or, nor first second, secondly, etc.
Time	while immediately never later, earlier after always when soon whenever meanwhile sometimes in the meantime during afterwards now, until now next following once then at length simultaneously so far this time subsequently
Place	here beyond

	adjacent to there neighboring on nearby above, below	wherever opposite to	
Exemplification or Illustration	to illustrate to demonstrate specifically for instance	as an illustration e.g., (for example) for example	
Comparison	in the same way by the same token similarly	in like manner likewise in similar fashion	
Contrast	yet but and yet however nevertheless though nonetheless otherwise after all	on the contrary in contrast notwithstanding on the other hand at the same time	
Clarification	that is to say in other words to explain way i.e., (that is)	to clarify to rephrase it to put it another way	
Cause	because since	on account of for that reason	
Effect	therefore consequently accordingly	thus hence as a result	
Purpose	in order that end so that	to that end, to this for this purpose	
Qualification	almost nearly probably frequently	perhaps maybe although never always	
Intensification	indeed to repeat by all means doubt of course	undoubtedly in fact surely in fact	doubtedly certainly without yes, no

Concession	to be sure course, it is true	granted	of
Summary	to summarize brief in sum up	in short in summary	in to sum
Conclusion	in conclusion	to conclude	finally
Demonstratives acting as transitions	this those	these that	
Pronouns serving as links to clearly refer to a specific word or phrase	his its theirs	her they our	it their your

<http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/Transitions.html>