

Transitional Words and Phrases

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.

TRANSITIONAL WORDS OR PHRASES

Addition:

- and
- last
- again
- moreover
- besides
- than
- too
- also

both-and

- another
- equally important
- first, second, etc.
- in addition to
- in the same way
- consequently
- finally
- not only-but also

as well as

- further
- for example
- for instance
- however
- thus
- therefore
- otherwise
- furthermore

Illustration:

- thus
- for example
- for instance
- namely
- to illustrate

in particular

- specifically
- such as
- for one thing
- as an example
- in this case

chiefly

- especially
- particularly
- singularly
- in other words
- in particular
- such as

Emphasis:

- above all
- indeed
- truly
- of course
- in addition

really

- in truth
- again
- besides
- also
- furthermore

chiefly

- especially
- particularly
- singularly
- certainly
- surely
- in fact

Contrast:

- however
- nevertheless

on the other hand

- at the same time

Consequence or Result:

- so that
- with the result that
- thus
- consequently
- hence
- accordingly
- for this reason
- therefore

so

- because
- since
- due to
- as a result
- in other words
- then

Similarity of Comparison:

- comparatively
- correspondingly
- in like fashion

in like manner

- analogous
- together with

likewise

- moreover
- identically

Sequence:

- first of all
- to begin with
- in the first place

at the same time

- meanwhile
- however

Details:

- specifically
- especially
- in particular

namely

- including
- to explain

to enumerate

- in detail
- to list

Time:

- after
- then
- first, second, ...

finally

- meanwhile
- subsequently
- next

later

- to begin with
- usually
- another

Generalizing:

- as a rule
- as usual
- for the most part
- generally
- usually
- ordinarily

Exemplifying:

- for instance
- in particular
- particularly
- including
- specifically
- such as

Space:

- below
- above
- at the top

opposite

- in the background
- behind
- across

under

- beside
- next to
- under

Examples:

- for example
- for instance
- to illustrate
- thus

in other words

- as illustration
- in particular

Conclusion or Summary:

- therefore
- finally
- consequently

to sum up

- lastly
- in conclusion
- all in all

in short

- in conclusion
- in brief
- as a result
- thus

Concession:

- although
- even though
- in spite of

still

- of course
- at least

Remember:

- 1 Use transition words to connect your ideas to make your essay clearer.
- 2 Use a comma after the transition word when beginning a sentence. **Example:** *However, the similarities are greater than the differences.*

Addition

furthermore moreover too also in the second place	finally besides and, or, nor first second, secondly, etc.	again in addition even more next further last, lastly
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Time

while immediately never after later, earlier 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
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Place

here there nearby beyond wherever opposite to	adjacent to neighboring on above, below
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Exemplification or Illustration

to illustrate to demonstrate specifically	for instance as an illustration e.g., (for example) for example
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Comparison

in the same way by the same token similarly in like manner likewise in similar fashion

Contrast

yet and yet	on the contrary in contrast
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nevertheless nonetheless after all but however though otherwise	notwithstanding on the other hand at the same time
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Clarification

that is to say in other words to explain i.e., (that is) to clarify to rephrase it to put it another way
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Cause

because since	on account of for that reason
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Effect

therefore consequently accordingly	thus hence as a result
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Purpose

in order that so that	to that end, to this end for this purpose
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Qualification

almost nearly probably never	always frequently perhaps maybe although
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Intensification

indeed to repeat by all means of course	without doubt yes, no undoubtedly in fact	surely in fact doubtedly certainly
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Concession

to be sure granted of course, it is true
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Summary

to summarize in sum	to sum up in short	in brief in summary
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Conclusion

in conclusion to conclude finally

Sources:

The Writing Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison
<<https://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/Transitions.html#contrast>>

UIEA 2018 Todd <<http://uiea2018.blogspot.com/2018/04/transition-words.html>>