

Handout: Transitions Handout

Transitions show the reader a change in the writer's direction from one idea to another within the paragraph. They also help the flow from one paragraph to the next one. Transitions keep the paragraph clear and give it a sense of direction and unity.

Transitions to introduce first supporting sentence in a paragraph:

To begin with,

To start,

Initially,

Transitions to add support or detail:

Furthermore,

Moreover,

After that,

Equally important,

Then,

Transitions to use to begin concluding sentence or paragraph:

To sum up,

In summary,

All in all,

In short,

Transitions to use to show contrast or opposing views:

However,

On the other hand,

In contrast,

Nevertheless,

Transitions to introduce examples:

For instance,

For example,

To illustrate,

Transitions to use to show time or place:

Afterward,

Meanwhile,

Eventually,

Transitions to use to emphasize or clarify:

As a matter of fact,

In fact,

Undoubtedly,

Indeed,

Most important,

Obviously,

Transitions that signal effect/result:

Thus,

Therefore,

As a result,

Consequently,

Ways to introduce an anecdote (a real-life scenario or story):

I recall a time . . .

I remember when . . .

Just the other day . . .