

## Writing Transitional Words & Phrases

Using transitional words and phrases help papers read more smoothly by providing coherence. Transitions indicate relations, whether from sentence to sentence, or from paragraph to paragraph. This is a list of “relationships” which supporting ideas may have, with each followed by a list of transitional words and phrases, which connect those ideas.

**Addition:** also, besides, furthermore, in addition, moreover, again

**Consequences:** accordingly, as a result, consequently, hence, otherwise, so then, therefore, thus, thereupon

**Summarizing:** after all, all in all, all things considered, briefly, by and large, in any case, in any event, in brief, in conclusion, on the whole, in short summary, in the final analysis, in the long run, on balance, on the whole, to sum up, to summarize, finally

**Generalizing:** as a rule, as usual, for the most part, generally, generally speaking, ordinarily, usually

**Restatement:** in essence, in other words, namely, that is, that is to say, in short, in brief, to put it differently

**Comparison and Contrast:** contrast, by the same token, conversely, instead, likewise, on one hand, on the contrary, on the other hand, rather, similarly, yet, but, however, still, nevertheless, in contrast

**Sequence:** at first, first of all, to begin with, in the first place, at the same time, for now, for the time being, the next step, in turn, later on, meanwhile, next then, soon, the meantime, later, while, earlier, simultaneously, afterward, in conclusion

**Diversion:** by the way, incidentally

**Illustration:** for example, for instance, for one thing

**Similarity:** likewise, similar, moreover

**Direction:** here, there, over there, beyond, nearly, opposite, under, above, to the left, to the right, in the distance