

Transitions

Transitional words or phrases show readers how the writer wants them to read, interpret, react to, and evaluate what was written about the subject. Writers can use transitions like bridges to carry the reader from one idea or part of the document to the next. Because they direct the reader's attention in specific ways, there are several categories of transitions for writers to choose from.

Here are some categories of common transitional devices that writers can use:

To Add:

again	besides	further/furthermore	too
in addition	first (second, etc.)	nor	next

To Repeat or To Explain:

in brief	in other words	as I have said	as I have noted
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To Emphasize:

emphatically	certainly	without reservation	undeniably
absolutely	without a doubt	unquestionably	surprisingly

To Make a Case:

moreover	for the same reason	in other words	indeed
furthermore	besides	in any case	in addition

To Show Cause and Effect:

therefore	thus	consequently	so, so that
accordingly	for this reason	as a result	to this end

To Show Exception:

yet, still	once in a while	in spite of	of course
however	sometimes	despite	nevertheless

To Give an Example:

for example	in this case	specifically	such as
for instance	in another case	to illustrate	in fact

To Compare:

also	in the same way	similarly	likewise
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To Contrast:

on the contrary	instead	however	conversely
in contrast	but/yet/still	whereas	after all

To Show Time:

since	as soon as	simultaneously	formerly
immediately	presently	previously	meanwhile

To Show Sequence:

at this time/point	following this	subsequently	consequently
now	previously	afterward	simultaneously

To Summarize or Conclude:

as I have shown	in brief	in short	thus
as mentioned earlier	in summary	accordingly	therefore