Success Center Guide to Transition Usage

Writers use transition words and phrases to connect ideas between sentences and paragraphs. Linked ideas provide a guide for readers to help them understand the logical relationship between thoughts. Using transitions improves the organization of the paper by making ideas easier to follow.

Use the following transition words and phrases to link your ideas from sentence to sentence to improve the flow of your paper.

TIME SEQUENCE	Immediately, thereafter, soon, as soon as, first, second, third (firstly, secondly, thirdly), later, after, while, since, meanwhile, somewhat earlier, shortly, in the future, next, over the next two days, previously, concurrently, subsequently, formerly, finally, last, at that time, until now
COMPARISON	Likewise, similarly, also, in the same manner, in comparison, resembling, a case in point, equally important, to emphasize
CONTRAST	In contrast, although, on the other hand, yet, but, however, even though, instead, still, nevertheless, conversely, at the same time, regardless, despite that
EXAMPLES	As an example, for instance, such as, specifically, thus, to illustrate, namely, to demonstrate, in this case, in this situation
CAUSE AND EFFECT	As a result, consequently, since, accordingly, if…then, due to this, for this reason, as a consequence of, hence, thus
PLACE	Next to, above, behind, beyond, near, across from, to the right, here, there, up front, in the foreground, in the background, in between, opposite to, adjacent to, alongside, against
ADDITION	And, too, again, moreover, in addition, besides, further, more, next, also, finally
CONCESSION	Of course, naturally, granted, while it is true that, certainly, admittedly, even though, otherwise
CONCLUSION OR SUMMARY	In conclusion, in short, as a result, as I have demonstrated, as the data show, on the whole, to sum up, finally, to summarize, therefore, in brief
REPETITION	To repeat, in other words, once again, as I have noted

"Transitional Devices." *The Purdue Owl Family of Sites.* The Writing Lab and OWL at Purdue and Purdue U, 2018, https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/mechanics/transitions_and_transitional_devices/transitional_devices.html. Accessed 28 Aug. 2018.