

Using Transitional Words

What are transitional words?

Transitional words help the reader understand the connections between ideas in sentences and paragraphs. These words and expressions show the relationship between the ideas by demonstrating addition, contrast, or results.

Transitional categories include...

⇒ **Addition**

This category is used to introduce an idea that furthers or continues the previous argument or idea.

⇒ **Comparison/Similarity**

This category introduces another example or version of the previous argument or idea.

⇒ **Concession**

This category is used to acknowledge a counterargument, flaw, or alternate opinion of the previous argument or idea.

⇒ **Contrast/Exception**

This category is used to show a change in the tone or focus of the previous argument or idea.

⇒ **Emphasis**

This category is used to place stress or importance on a particular argument or idea.

⇒ **Example**

This category is used to illustrate or explain the previous argument or idea.

⇒ **Generality**

This category is used to discuss a argument or idea that is applicable to a universal or common audience.

⇒ **Result/Cause and Effect**

This category is used show to the consequence of the previous argument or idea.

⇒ **Summary/Conclusion**

This category is used to discuss the end result of the previous argument or idea.

Some examples include...

• *In addition, also, besides, as well, furthermore, moreover, additionally, further*

• *In the same way, similarly, likewise*

• *Granted, naturally, of course*

• *In contrast, however, although, instead, on the contrary, on the other hand, otherwise, nevertheless, yet*

• *Of course, certainly, indeed, in fact, even so, truly, especially, specifically*

• *For example, for instance, to illustrate, as an illustration, a case in point, namely, specifically, in fact*

• *In general, for the most part, as a general rule, generally, on the whole, usually, typically, in most cases*

• *As a result, consequently, hence, then, therefore, thus, accordingly, so, for this reason*

• *Finally, conclusion, in short, in summary, to summarize, in brief, in the end, on the whole, thus, in other words, therefore*