

Transitions in Writing

Note: Transitions help readers move from thought to thought, from sentence to sentence, and paragraph to paragraph. You are likely to use a number of transitions as you draft; when you're editing, you should make a point of checking transitions.

To Show Causes and Effects:

accordingly, as a result of, because, consequently, essentially, hence, so, then, therefore, thus, subsequently

To Show Comparisons:

also, in the same way, like, likewise, most likely, similarly

To Show Contrasts or Exceptions:

although, but, even though, however, in contrast, instead, nevertheless, nonetheless, on the one hand, on the other hand, still, yet

To Show Example:

even, for example, for instance, indeed, in fact, of course, such as

To Show Place or Position:

above, adjacent to, below, beyond, elsewhere, here, inside, near, outside, there

To Show Sequence:

after that, after, again, also, and then, before, before that, besides that, besides, finally, furthermore, in addition to that, lastly, moreover, next,

To Show Time:

after, as soon as, at first, before, finally, immediately, later, meanwhile, next, simultaneously, so far, soon, then, thereafter

To Signal a Summary or Conclusion:

as a result of, as we have seen, finally, in a word, in any event, in brief, in conclusion, in other words, in short, in the end, in the final analysis, on the whole, therefore, thus, to summarize, essentially, consequently, subsequently