

Transitional Words and Phrases

Transitional words and phrases can create powerful links between ideas in your paper and can help your reader understand the logic of your paper.

However, these words all have different meanings, nuances, and connotations.

Before using a particular transitional word in your paper, be sure you understand its meaning and usage completely and be sure that it's the right match for the logic in your paper.

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Addition

- furthermore
- also
- in addition
- further
- besides
- second, secondly, etc.
- moreover
- in the second place
- even more
- last, lastly
- and, or, nor
- too
- again
- next
- finally
- first

Time

- while
- after
- when
- meanwhile
- during
- next
- then
- so far
- immediately
- later, earlier
- soon
- sometimes
- afterwards
- following
- at length
- this time
- never
- always
- whenever
- in the meantime
- now, until now
- once
- simultaneously
- subsequently

Place

- here
- beyond
- adjacent to
- there
- wherever
- neighboring on
- nearby
- opposite to
- above, below

Exemplification or Illustration

- to illustrate
- for instance
- for example
- to demonstrate
- as an illustration
- specifically
- e.g., (for example)

Comparison

- in the same way
- in like manner
- by the same token
- likewise
- similarly
- in similar fashion

Contrast

- yet
- nonetheless
- however
- on the contrary
- on the other hand
- and yet
- after all
- though
- in contrast
- at the same time
- nevertheless
- but
- otherwise
- notwithstanding

Clarification

- that is to say
- i.e., (that is)
- to put it another way
- in other words
- to clarify
- to explain
- to rephrase it

Cause

- because
- since
- on account of
- for that reason

Effect

- therefore
- thus
- consequently
- hence
- accordingly
- as a result

Purpose

- in order that
- for this purpose
- so that
- to that end, to this end

Qualification

- almost
- never
- perhaps
- nearly
- always
- maybe
- probably
- frequently
- although

Intensification

- indeed
- of course
- without doubt
- in fact
- to repeat
- doubtedly
- yes, no
- surely
- by all means
- certainly
- undoubtedly
- in fact

Concession

- to be sure
- granted
- of course, it is true

Summary

- to summarize
- to sum up
- in sum
- in short
- in brief
- in summary

Conclusion

- in conclusion
- to conclude
- finally

Demonstratives acting as transitions

- this
- that
- those
- these

Pronouns serving as links to clearly refer to a specific word or phrase

- his
- it
- her
- its
- their
- they
- theirs
- your
- our