

The Christ College Writing Center
Transitional Words Info Sheet

Transitional words are an easy and concise way to explain to a reader what the relationship is between thoughts, paragraphs, and sentences. Different situations require different transitions. Some common situations and transitions include:

- **To ADD:**
 - Also, and, then, as well, besides, beyond that, first (second, third, last), for one thing, furthermore, in addition, moreover, next
- **To CLARIFY:**
 - For instance, in other words, that is
- **To COMPARE:**
 - Also, as well, both, in the same way, likewise, similarly, like, as
- **To CONTRAST:**
 - Although, be that as it may, but even though, however, in contrast, nevertheless, on the contrary, on the other hand, whereas, yes
- **To CONCEDE A POINT:**
 - Certainly, granted that, no doubt, of course
- **To EMPHASIZE:**
 - Above all, especially, in fact, in particular, indeed, most important, most of all, surely
- **To ILLUSTRATE:**
 - As a case in point, as an illustration, for example, for instance, in particular, one such, yet another
- **To PLACE IN SPACE:**
 - Above, next to, beside, below, beyond, further, here, inside, nearby, next to, on the far side, outside, to the east (north, south, west)
- **To PLACE IN TIME:**
 - After a while, afterward, at last, at present, briefly, currently, during, eventually, finally, first (second, third, last), gradually, immediately, in the future, later, meanwhile, now, recently, soon, suddenly, today, yesterday
- **To QUALIFY:**
 - Perhaps
- **To GIVE REASON TO:**
 - As, because, for, since
- **To SHOW A RESULT:**
 - And so, as a consequence, as a result, because of this, consequently, for this reason, hence, so, therefore, thus
- **To SUMMARIZE:**
 - All in all, finally, in brief, in conclusion, in other words, lastly, on the whole, to sum up

Examples:

- **First of all**, pour a half-cup of milk in the bowl; **second**, add two eggs; and **third**, stir the mixture.
- **To conclude**, I want to wish you all a very happy holiday season.
- The cat acts **as if** he is the boss of the house.
- The play was great, **nonetheless**, I am sick of seeing it for the fourth time.

For Additional Information:

- A Writer's Reference, pp. 42-45
- <http://ow-l.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/574/02/>