



Transitional Expressions

Transitions are key to creating a paper that flows smoothly and promotes a continuous movement of ideas. Transitional expressions are plentiful and can be used in a variety of ways. The following are examples of some transitional expressions that are not only easy to use but will in fact add polish and direction to your work if used properly.

Transitions can be used:

To compare

Also, in the same way, likewise, similarly

To contrast

Although, and yet, but, but at the same time, despite, even so, even though, for all that, however, in contrast, in spite of, nevertheless, notwithstanding, on the contrary, on the other hand, regardless, still, though, yet

To indicate place

Above, adjacent to, below, elsewhere, farther on, here, near, nearby, on the other side, opposite to, there, to the east, to the left

To indicate time

After a while, afterward, as long as, as soon as, at last, at length, at that time, before, earlier, formerly, immediately, in the meantime, in the past, lately, later, meanwhile, now, presently, shortly, simultaneously, since, so far, soon, subsequently, then, thereafter, until, when

To repeat, summarize or conclude

Again, all in all, altogether, as has been said, in brief, in conclusion, in other words, in particular, in short, in simpler terms, in summary, on the whole, that is, therefore, to put it differently, to summarize

To show cause and effect

Accordingly, as a result, because, consequently, for this purpose, hence, otherwise, since, then, therefore, thereupon, thus, to this end, with this object

As you can see, transitions are as diverse in form as they are in function. In general, remember that transitions are an excellent way to move smoothly from topic to topic, and add an air of grace to what could otherwise be rough spots in your paper.

