

Transitions are words or phrases that connect an author's thoughts, thereby making a composition coherent. They come in what seems like an infinite number of varieties, yet transitional strategies do fall into categories. This list of transition words and phrases is divided according to function.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

These transitions link additional information, reference other information, clarify, or give examples.

Addition

additionally	in addition	after all	also	along with
and	another	as well (as)	besides	in the first place
for one thing	further	furthermore	including	equally important
likewise	let alone	moreover	not to mention	to tell you the truth
similarly	specifically	too	ultimately	above and beyond

Reference

as for	concerning	considering	in a like manner	on the subject of
such as	the fact that	with regards to	regarding	by the same token

Clarification, Illustration

as I have said	as an illustration	after all	by comparison	in other words
incidentally	in general	for example	for instance	to put it another way
to illustrate	specifically	such as	the fact that	with regards to

EMPHASIZING OR OPPOSING INFORMATION

These transitions emphasize (existing or opposing), contrast, or concede points.

Emphasis

above all	actually	again	in fact	as a matter of fact
besides	certainly	especially	indeed	for this reason
in particular	naturally	let alone	much less	more importantly
of course	surely	truly	to emphasize	to repeat

Contrast

although	though	but	conversely	despite
however	in spite of	instead	in contrast	on the contrary
not only	notwithstanding	nevertheless	nonetheless	on the other hand
otherwise	still	whereas	(and) yet	to say nothing of

Concession

admittedly	all the same	at least	either way	be that as it may
granted	in any case	in any event	regardless	whatever happens

CAUSAL INFORMATION

These transitions link to causes/reasons to effects/consequences, or they indicate purpose.

Cause or Reason				
because	being that	due to _____	given that	owing to the fact
inasmuch as	in view of _____	seeing that	since	for the reason that
Effect or Result				
accordingly	and that's why	as a result	consequently	as a consequence
hence	so	therefore	thus	because of this
Purpose				
in order to	in hope that	for this purpose	for that reason	
so	so that	to this end	with this is mind	
Condition, Consequence				
if so	if not	in that case	lest	that being the case
once	otherwise	whether or not	whether	under the circumstances

SEQUENTIAL INFORMATION

These transitions signal time, sequential order, break in logical order, or summation.

Time & Sequence				
about	after a few days	afterward	at length	at the same time
as soon as	before	during	eventually	first (second, ...)
finally	later	lastly	immediately	in the meantime
in the past	meanwhile	next	since	soon
still	subsequently	then	thereafter	to begin with
until	when	whenever	while	yesterday
Digress & Resume				
by the way	incidentally	before I forget	by and by	to change the subject
anyhow	anyway	at any rate	in any case	to get back to the point
Summarize				
all in all	altogether	as a result	as has been said	as we have seen
in simpler terms	in brief	in conclusion	in summary	to put it differently
in other words	on the whole	to summarize	to sum up	to make a long story short

TRANSITION PUNCTUATION

1. A coordinating conjunction (*but, or, yet, for, and, nor, so*) joining two independent clauses is preceded by a comma.
2. A subordinating conjunction joining a second clause (now dependent) of a sentence is not preceded by a comma.
3. An introductory clause beginning with a subordinating conjunction is followed by a comma.