

Transition Words

Transition words perform several critical functions. They help the reader move from one key idea to the next and they show relationships between main ideas and events. Ultimately, they create a sense of flow.

Sequence

After	Earlier	Finally	At least
At first	At the beginning	Later	As soon as
Initially	At once	Next	Then during
Then	After	Before	
Proceeding	Immediately	Following	

Compare/Contrast

However	Likewise	As well as	Otherwise
In contrast	Although	Besides	Neither
In spite of	Whereas	Also	Neither....nor
On the contrary	Yet	Similarly	Just as surely
Nevertheless	Opposite to	Instead	
Differences	Differences	On the other hand	
In addition	In common	In spite of	

Spatial/Location

Nearby	Under	Close by	Next to
Behind	Inside	Beside	Opposite
In front of	Outside	Over	Around
Above	Among	To the side of	On top of
In between	At the center of	Across	

Cause/Effect

Because	On account of	So	In order to
Consequently	As a result of	Accordingly	Since
Thus	Therefore	As long as	So that
For that reason	Hence	If...then	Therefore

Transition Words (cont'd)

Words to Show Example

For instance	To illustrate	For example	Specifically
Of course	After all	In fact	
To demonstrate	In this case	In addition	

Words to Show Equal Ideas

Additionally	Besides	Likewise
Also	In addition to	Moreover
As well as	In like manner	Similarly

Words that show certainty

Certainly	Despite the fact that	Without a doubt	In fact
Indeed	Yet	Clearly	It is clear that
Obviously	Undoubtedly	Without question	

Words used in conclusion

As stated earlier	Thus	Consequently	To conclude/
Finally	To summarize	In other words	summarize
Therefore	As we have seen	On the whole	
In conclusion	To sum up	Therefore	

Time

Soon	Before	Quickly	Since
Not long after	Until	At this point	Occasionally
At length	At present	A few minutes later	Henceforth
At last	Immediately	Formerly	Then
Finally	Instantly	Yesterday	Meanwhile
Some time ago	At this instant	Later in the day	Thereupon
Later	Suddenly	Since then	In the meantime
Afterwards	Now	When	Sometimes
Presently	Without delay	Whenever	In a moment
From this time on	In the first place	Next	Shortly
From time to time	Forthwith	As	Whereupon
After	Straightaway	Once	