

TRANSITION EXPRESSIONS

There are certain words, phrases and sentences which can be used to help develop the main topic of a paragraph. Such expressions show the direction of the author's thought. These words or phrases are usually placed at or near the beginning of a sentence to indicate the relationship between the new sentence and the one preceding it. Usually, such words or phrases are set off by commas.

The use of these transition expressions is essential to smooth paragraph development. They make writing more effective because they alert the reader to be prepared for what follows.

Here are some of the most common transition expressions, grouped according to meaning:

TIME

after a (+ time expression)	lately	since
after a short/ long time	later	since then
afterward	meanwhile	soon
at least	now	temporarily
at the same time	nowadays	then
before that time	presently	thereafter
before then	recently	
immediately	shorly	

AUGMENTATION

additionally	and then	in addition
again	besides	likewise
also	further	moreover
and	furthermore	too

CONTRAST, OPPOSITION

and yet	however	notwithstanding
after all	in contrast	on the contrary
although this may be true	in contrast to (+ noun)	on the other hand
at the same time	in spite of (+ noun)	still
but	it must be confessed	yet
despite this (+noun)	nevertheless	

COMPARISON, SIMILARITY

again
also
equally (+ adjective)

in a like manner
in the same way
in a similar manner

likewise
similarly

CONCESSION

after all
although
and yet

as a matter of fact
at the same time
granted

naturally
of course
perhaps

DEMONSTRATION, ILLUSTRATION

as a matter of fact
as an example
for example
for instance
incidentally

indeed
in fact
in other words
in particular
namely

particularly
specifically
that is
to illustrate

SEQUENCE

finally
first of all
first, second, third, etc.
in the first place, second place, etc.

last
last of all
next
then

to begin with
to end with

RESULT

accordingly
as a result
consequently
for this reason

hence
so
otherwise
then

thereby
therefore
thus

PURPOSE

for this purpose/ reason

to this purpose

with this object (objective)

LOCATION

adjacent to (+ noun)
at the top
at the right
beyond
far ahead

far behind
here
in the center
in the distance
nearby

opposite (+ noun)
straight ahead

CONCLUSION, SUMMARY

accordingly
as a result
as I have said/ noted/ stated
briefly
briefly stated
consequently

finally
in brief
in other words
indeed
in other words
it goes without saying

on the whole
therefore
thus
to conclude
to summarize
to sum up