

TRANSITIONS: SIGNALS FOR YOUR READER

Transitions are signals or cues in writing that show the reader the relationship between one idea and the next. Transitions help the reader see that a certain line of reasoning is being continued, developed, challenged, changed, or summarized. They make writing flow and make it easier for the reader to understand ideas. Use a transition to link paragraphs by putting a transition word or phrase in the first sentence of the new paragraph. Transitions are also used to link sentences within a paragraph.

CUES THAT LEAD THE READER FORWARD: "HERE'S MORE ON THIS IDEA."

Again	Equally important
In addition	First, second, finally
Above all	Furthermore
Likewise	Similarly
In other words	Moreover
Next	Besides

CUES THAT SHOW THE READER CONTRAST: "HERE'S A DIFFERENT IDEA."

However	Although this is true
On the contrary	Nevertheless
Yet	Conversely
In contrast	On the other hand
But	Instead

CUES THAT SHOW CAUSE AND EFFECT: "HERE'S THE RESULT OF THAT."

Thus
Therefore
As a result
Consequently
For that reason

CUES THAT INTRODUCE A SUMMARY OR CONCLUSION:

In brief
In conclusion
To sum up
Therefore
In general
In short
Finally