

TRANSITION DEVICES WITHIN AND BETWEEN PARAGRAPHS

Transitions are used to link one sentence to another within a paragraph. They make writing flow and guide your reader from idea to idea. Transitions are also used to link paragraphs in logical progression or organization.

You must use good judgment with connecting words. Sometimes students mark every word or idea with a connecting word or begin every sentence with a transition word. If you post unnecessary signs, your readers will ignore them, along with the necessary ones. If you post too few, they will not understand them.

Relationship	Transitional words
To indicate a time order	when, while, first, to begin (with), as, at the same time, etc.
To indicate description	above, across from, also, beyond, further
To indicate similar ideas	similarly, and, in addition, another, also, then, again, further
To contrast two ideas	however, in contrast, yet, on the other hand, on the contrary
To point up an example	for example, for instance, to be specific, namely, that is
To point out a conclusion, result (cause-effect relationship)	thus, so, therefore, for this reason, consequently as a result, in other words, accordingly, because, hence