



## TRANSITION WORDS

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Two steps should be used when you consult this list. First, determine the type of signal you need. Next, select from that signal group the word which is most appropriate to the meaning of your sentences.

**Note:** *The same transition word or phrase can sometimes serve different purposes.*

### ***Type of Signal***

### ***Words to Use (Signal Group)***

To signal an **addition**:

in addition, furthermore, moreover, also, equally important, likewise, another, again

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To signal an **example**:

for example, for instance, thus, in other words, as an illustration, in particular

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To signal a **suggestion**:

for this purpose, to this end, with this objective in mind

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To signal **emphasis**:

indeed, truly, again, to repeat, in fact

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To signal **granting a point**:

while it may be true, in spite of this

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To signal a **summary/conclusion**:

in summary, in conclusion, therefore, finally, consequently, accordingly, in short, in brief, as a result, on the whole, thus

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To signal the **development of a sequence**:

*Value* sequence: first, second, secondly, third, thirdly, next, last, finally

*Time* sequence: then, afterward, next, subsequently, previously, first, second, at last, meanwhile, in the meantime, immediately, soon, at length, yesterday, today, tomorrow, eventually

*Space* sequence: above, across, under, beyond, below, nearby, nearer, opposite to, adjacent to, to the left/right, in the foreground, in the background

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To signal a **relationship**:

*Similarity*: similarly, likewise, in like manner

*Contrast*: in contrast to, however, but, still, nevertheless, yet, conversely, notwithstanding, on the other hand, on the contrary, at the same time, while this may be true

*Cause and Effect*: consequently, thus, therefore, accordingly, hence, as a result

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To signal an **argument**:

accordingly, as a result, at the same time, besides, equally important, in fact, otherwise, therefore

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To signal a **comparison**:

also, at the same time, in like manner, in the same way, likewise, similarly, so too

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To signal a **contrast**:

but, however, in contrast with, instead, nevertheless, on the contrary, on the other hand, otherwise, yet

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Revised 2003

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