



7th Edition

Transitions Guide

There are two kinds of transitions: (a) *Transitions that are used at the start of a sentence to show how the sentence connects with the previous sentence*, and (b) *Transitions that are used at the start of a paragraph to show how the paragraph logically connects with the previous paragraph*. This handout covers only transitional words and phrases.

- Transitional words and phrases serve two purposes:
 - *Transitions that are used at the start of a sentence to show how the sentence connects with the previous sentence*, whether a sentence is starting a new idea).
 - *Transitions that are used at the start of a paragraph to show how the paragraph logically connects with the previous paragraph*.
- Although transitional words and phrases can be very helpful, they can also be overused.
 - Make sure you are not overusing the same three or four transitions throughout your paper.
 - Even if you use a variety of transitions, it is possible to overdo it. If you have transitions at the beginning of every (or nearly every) sentence, look for places to remove some.

Examples of only some, but not all, of the transitional words and phrases you can use in an

To show cause/ consequence

- As such,
- Consequently,
- Therefore,
- Thus,

To show contrast

- By contrast,
- Conversely,
- However,
- Although,
- Nevertheless,
- Nonetheless,
- _____
notwithstanding,
- On the one hand, ...
On the other hand,

To show additional examples

- Similarly,
- In a similar manner,
- In addition,
- Additionally,
- Moreover,
- Furthermore,
- Another study

To summarize/ conclude

- In short,
- In sum,
- Overall,
- In general,
- Taken together,
{ ... } Å

To show a sequence of events

- First,
- Next,
- Then,
- Finally,

To relate to hypotheses

- Consistent with
- Contrary to
- As predicted,
- As expected,
- In agreement with
- In accordance with
- Congruent with