

COMMON TRANSITIONAL WORDS & PHRASES

To Indicate TIME ORDER

- earlier
 - former
 - formerly
 - heretofore
 - in retrospect
 - in the past
 - not long ago
 - of late
 - preceding
 - previously
 - prior to
 - recently
 - yesterday
-
- at present
 - at the same time
 - at this moment
 - by now
 - concurrently
 - currently
 - immediately
 - now
 - presently
 - right away
 - simultaneously
 - until now
-
- henceforth
 - hereafter
 - in the future
-
- after a long time
 - after a short while
 - afterward
 - later on
 - not long after
 - right after
 - soon after
 - thereafter

To Indicate CONTRAST

- a clear difference
- a distinct difference
- a striking distance
- a strong distinction
- against
- although
- although this may be true
- an opposing view
- and yet
- another distinction
- balanced against
- but
- by contrast
- contrarily
- contrary to
- conversely
- counter to
- despite
- despite the fact that
- different from
- even though
- for
- however
- in contrast
- in opposition to
- nevertheless
- nonetheless
- on the contrary
- on the other hand
- opposing
- otherwise
- regardless
- the antithesis of
- the reverse of
- to differ from
- to differentiate
- to oppose
- up against
- whereas
- while
- yet

To Indicate COMPARISON

- after all
- along the same lines
- also
- analogous to
- as compared with
- as well as
- balanced against
- by comparison
- comparable
- comparatively
- compared to
- consistent with
- conversely
- correlate
- correspondingly
- equal
- equally important
- equivalent
- however
- identical
- in a similar fashion
- in comparison
- in contrast
- in like manner
- in the same manner
- in the same way
- like
- likewise
- matching
- meanwhile
- nevertheless
- of little difference
- parallel to
- relative to
- relatively
- resemble
- resembling
- similarly
- synonymous
- the next likeness
- to the same extent
- too
- uniformly
- where
- whereas

To Indicate CAUSE & EFFECT

- accordingly
- as a consequence
- as a result
- as a result of
- because
- because of this
- by reason of
- caused by
- consequently
- due to
- following that
- for
- for this purpose
- for this reason
- furthermore
- hence
- henceforth
- in conclusion
- in effect
- in view of
- it follows that
- on account of
- otherwise
- owing to
- so
- subsequently
- the end result
- the outcome
- the ramifications of
- then
- thereafter
- therefore
- thus
- to this end
- accordingly
- as a result
- consequently
- hence
- it follows, then
- since
- so
- then
- therefore
- thus

Courtesy the Odegaard Writing & Research Center
<http://www.depts.washington.edu/owrc>

Adapted from UW Expository Writing Program and Edmonds Community College Writing Center handouts

To Indicate SEQUENCE

- at first
- at the beginning
- at the onset
- commencing with
- earlier
- embark
- first
- from this point
- in the first place
- initially
- once
- once upon a time
- starting with
- to begin with

-
- after that
 - following that
 - immediately following
 - in the second place
 - in turn
 - later on
 - next
 - on the next occasion
 - second /secondly
 - so far
 - subsequently
 - the following week
 - the next day
 - the next time
 - the second stage
 - twice

-
- in the third place
 - last
 - last of all
 - third
 - at last
 - lastly
 - in the last place
 - the latter
 - at the end
 - in the end
 - final
 - finally
 - the final point
 - to conclude
 - in conclusion

To Indicate ADDITION

- after
- afterward
- again
- also
- and
- and then
- besides
- concurrently
- consequently
- equally important
- finally
- following this
- further
- furthermore
- hence
- in addition
- in fact
- indeed
- lastly
- moreover
- next
- nor
- now
- previously
- simultaneously
- so too
- subsequently
- therefore
- thus
- too
- what's more

To Provide An EXAMPLE

- a case in point
- after all
- an analogy
- analogous to
- another way
- as an example
- as an illustration
- consider
- consider as an illustration
- for example
- for instance
- for instance
- for one thing
- in another case
- in fact
- in one example
- in order to clarify
- in other words
- in particular
- in the following manner
- in the same manner
- in this case
- in this situation
- in this specific instance
- more exactly
- namely
- on this occasion
- specifically
- such as
- suppose that
- take the case of
- that is
- to be exact
- to bring to light
- to clarify
- to demonstrate
- to exemplify
- to explain
- to illuminate
- to illustrate
- to put another way
- to show
- to take a case in point
- to take a case in point

To EMPHASIZE or INTENSIFY

- above all
- actually
- after all
- as a matter of fact
- certainly
- decidedly
- definitely
- equally important
- especially
- furthermore
- in fact
- increasingly important
- indeed
- more emphatically
- more important
- moreover
- most important of all
- most of all
- of great concern
- of major concern
- primarily
- significantly
- surely
- the crux of the matter
- the main issue
- the main problem
- the major reason
- there is no question that
- to be sure
- to emphasize
- to recapitulate
- very likely
- without a doubt
- without doubt
- without question

To Indicate EXCEPTION

- despite
- however
- in spite of
- nevertheless
- of course
- once in a while
- sometimes
- still
- yet

To ELABORATE

- actually
- by extension
- in short
- in other words
- to put it another way
- to put it bluntly
- to put it succinctly
- ultimately

To CONCEDE

- admittedly
- although it is true that
- granted
- I concede that
- of course
- naturally
- to be sure

To SUMMARIZE or CONCLUDE

- accordingly
- as a result
- as has been noted
- as I have said
- as I have shown
- consequently
- hence
- in brief
- in conclusion
- on the whole
- on the whole
- summing up
- therefore
- thus
- to conclude
- as a result
- consequently
- hence
- in conclusion, then
- in short
- in sum, then
- it follows, then
- so
- the upshot of all this is that
- therefore
- thus
- to sum up
- to summarize

To Connect CLAUSES***COORDINATION CONJUNCTIONS**

- and
- but
- for
- nor
- or
- so
- yet

To Connect CLAUSES cont.***SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS**

- after
- although
- as
- as if
- as though
- because
- before
- even
- even if
- even though
- if
- in order that
- once
- rather than
- since
- so that
- than
- that
- though
- unless
- until
- when
- whenever
- while

*** NOTE:**

Conjunctions do more than simply link and connect ideas. Conjunctions combine clauses which transitional words cannot do. This is a significant difference between conjunctions and transitional words