**Transitional Words & Phrases**

*Using transitional words and phrases helps papers read more smoothly, and at the same time allows the reader to flow more smoothly from one point to the next. Transitions enhance logical organization and understandability and improve the connections between thoughts. They indicate relations, whether within a sentence, paragraph, or paper. This list illustrates categories of "relationships" between ideas, followed by words and phrases that can make the connections:*

**Addition:**

also, again, as well as, besides, coupled with, furthermore, in addition, likewise, moreover, similarly

*EX. When there is a trusting relationship coupled with positive reinforcement, the partners will be able to overcome difficult situations.*

**Consequence:**

accordingly, as a result, consequently, for this reason, for this purpose, hence, otherwise, so then, subsequently, therefore, thus, thereupon, wherefore

*EX. Highway traffic came to a stop as a result of an accident that morning.*

**Contrast and Comparison:**

contrast, by the same token, conversely, instead, likewise, on one hand, on the other hand, on the contrary, rather,

similarly, yet, but, however, still, nevertheless, in contrast

*EX. The children were very happy. On the other hand, and perhaps more importantly, their parents were very proactive in providing good care.*

**Direction:**

here, there, over there, beyond, nearly, opposite, under, above, to the left, to the right, in the distance

*EX. She scanned the horizon for any sign though in the distance she could not see the surprise coming her way.*

**Emphasis**

Most importantly, notably, above all, chiefly, with attention to, especially, particularly, singularly, for instance, in particular, markedly, namely, including, specifically, such as

*EX. The Quakers gathered each month with attention to deciding the business of their Meeting.*

**Exception:**

Although, however, even though, aside from, barring, beside, except, excepting, excluding, exclusive of, other than, outside of, save, but

*EX. Although consensus was arrived at by all of the members exclusive of those who could not vote, the law did not pass.*

**Generalizing:**

as a rule, as usual, for the most part, generally, generally speaking, ordinarily, usually, typically

*EX. There were a few very talented artists in the class, but for the most part the students only wanted to avoid the alternative course.*

**Illustration:**

for example, for instance, for one thing, as an illustration, illustrated with, as an example, in this case

*EX. The chapter provided complex sequences and examples illustrated with a very simple schematic diagram.*

**Similarity:**

comparatively, coupled with, correspondingly, identically, likewise, similar, moreover, together with, accordingly

*EX. The research was presented in a very dry style though was coupled with examples that made the audience tear up.*

**Restatement:**

in essence, in other words, namely, that is, that is to say, in short, in brief, to put it differently

*EX. In their advertising business, saying things directly was not the rule. That is to say, they tried to convey the message subtly though with creativity.*

**Sequence:**

Initially, at first, first of all, to begin with, at the same time, for now, for the time being, the next step, in time, in turn,

meanwhile, next, then, soon, the meantime, later, while, earlier, simultaneously, afterward, in conclusion, with this in mind,

*EX. The music had a very retro sound but at the same time incorporated a complex modern rhythm.*

**Summarizing:**

As a result, after all, all in all, all things considered, briefly, in any case, in any event, in brief, in conclusion, on the whole, in short, in summary, in the final analysis, in the long run, on balance, to sum up, to summarize, finally, thus

*EX. She didn't seem willing to sell the car this week, but in any case I don't get paid until the end of the month.*