



# TRANSITIONS

A useful way to help your reader follow the logical movement within and between paragraphs is to use *transitions* to mark the change in focus. Using transitions will help keep the whole essay organized and easy to follow. Throughout the essay, each paragraph should have some logical connection to the one before it. When a reader moves from one paragraph to the next, he/she should know that he/she has reached a new step in the argument.

## *To Mark Time*

Then	Soon
First	Second
Next	Recently
The following day	In a little while
Meanwhile	After
Later	In the past

## *To Mark Place or Direction*

In the distance	Close by
Near	Far away
Above	Below
To the right	On the other side
Opposite	To the west
Next door	

## *To Summarize or Restate*

In other words	In brief
In simpler terms	On the whole
In fact	In a word
To sum up	In short
In conclusion	To conclude
Finally	Therefore
To put it another way	

## *To Add, Amplify, or List*

And	Also
Too	Besides
As well	Moreover
In addition	Furthermore
In effect	Second
Again	Next
In the second place	

## *To Indicate Purpose*

To this end	For this purpose
With this objective	

## *To Express Condition*

Although	Though
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## *To Concede*

Whereas	On the other hand
With that in mind	Still
And yet	Even so
In spite of	Despite
At least	

## *To Compare*

Similarly	Likewise
In like manner	

Continued on back

### *To Contrast*

On the other hand	But
Or	However
Unlike	Nevertheless
On the contrary	Conversely
In contrast	Instead

### *To Qualify*

For the most part	By and large
With few exceptions	Mainly
In most cases	Generally
Some	Sometimes

### *To Emphasize*

It is true	Truly
Indeed	Of course
To be sure	Obviously
Without doubt	Evidently
Clearly	Understandably

### *To Relate Cause/Effect or Result*

Therefore	Accordingly
Hence	Thus
For	So
Consequently	As a result
Because of	

### *To Give Examples or Specify*

For example	For instance
In this case	In particular
To illustrate	

### *Transitions and Comma Use*

Transitional words and phrases often require commas when beginning a sentence. If transitions appear in the middle of a sentence, they should be surrounded by commas unless a semicolon is used. Here are several examples of comma usage with **transitions**:

- **Ultimately**, transitions help with the flow of your essay.
- When you revise your paper, **however**, include more transitions
- Many people forget to use transitions, **for the most part**.