

Transitions



Writing transitions is like building a bridge between paragraphs. Each paragraph of a paper should contain an idea that is directly related to your main idea/thesis statement, and transitions help explain the relationships between ideas. Also, transitional words and phrases are often followed by a comma.

If you're having difficulty coming up with transitions between your ideas, it might be a signal to re-organize your paragraphs.

Use these transitions charts...

...to elaborate on an idea / provide examples

After all	For example	In particular	Then
Again	For instance	In this case	Therefore
Also	Further	In this situation	Thus
Besides	Furthermore	Indeed	To demonstrate
Despite	Importantly	Likewise	To illustrate
Even if	In addition	Moreover	Whereas
Finally	In fact	Specifically	Yet

...to emphasize an idea / signify importance

Absolutely	Extremely	Most importantly	The best
Certainly	Indeed	Obviously	Undeniably
Emphatically	Least important	Significantly	Unquestionably
Equally important	Meaningfully	Surprisingly	Without a doubt

...to conclude an idea

At the end of the day	In any event	In summary	Therefore
Consequently	In conclusion	Indeed	To wrap up
Finally	In other words	Overall	Ultimately

Use these transition charts...



...to compare ideas / indicate cause and effect

Accordingly	Because of	Hence	Naturally
Also	Consequently	In addition	Similarly
As a result	Despite	In fact	Then
As you can see	Due to	Likewise	Therefore

...to contrast ideas

Alternatively	Even though	Nonetheless	Otherwise
Although	However	On the contrary	Still
At the same time	In contrast	On the one hand /	Unlike
Conversely	Nevertheless	On the other hand	Yet

...to indicate a transition in time

After	First	Meanwhile	Simultaneously
Before	Formerly	Next	Soon
By this time	Immediately	Presently	Then
During	Lastly	Previously	Thereafter
Finally	Later	Second	Third