

Transitions help readers connect the ideas in a piece of writing; they're the glue that shows how pieces of your text fit together. Often all you'll need is a word or phrase to lead readers through your text.

Cues that		
<u>lead forward</u>	<u>lead through a sequence</u>	<u>lead through cause and effect relationships</u>
<u>compare and contrast</u>	<u>clarify or emphasize</u>	<u>lead to concessions, reservations, dismissals, or conditions.</u>
<u>lead to conclusions</u>		

Cues that lead readers forward from information they've already read to new information.

- To move readers into additional information or further development of your ideas.

Old Information	Transition		New Information
	ADDITION		
	<i>Actually,</i>	<i>Further,</i>	
	<i>Additionally,</i>	<i>Furthermore,</i>	
	<i>Again,</i>	<i>Incidentally,</i>	
	<i>Also,</i>	<i>Indeed,</i>	
	<i>And</i>	<i>In fact,</i>	
	<i>Besides</i>	<i>Lastly,</i>	
	<i>Equally important,</i>	<i>Moreover,</i>	
	<i>Finally,</i>	<i>Not only this, but this as well</i>	
	<i>First, Second, Third, etc.</i>	<i>What's more,</i>	

- To move readers into specific examples

Generalization	Transition		Examples
	EXAMPLES		
	<i>As an illustration,</i>	<i>Namely,</i>	
	<i>Especially,</i>	<i>Notably,</i>	
	<i>For example,</i>	<i>Particularly,</i>	
	<i>For instance,</i>	<i>Specifically,</i>	
	<i>Including</i>	<i>To demonstrate,</i>	
	<i>In particular,</i>	<i>To illustrate,</i>	

Cues that lead readers through a sequence

- To move readers from one time-frame to another

One time	Transition		Another time
	TIME		
	<i>After a few hours,</i>	<i>Immediately following,</i>	
	<i>Afterwards,</i>	<i>Initially,</i>	
	<i>At last</i>	<i>In the end,</i>	
	<i>At the same time,</i>	<i>In the future,</i>	
	<i>Before</i>	<i>In the meantime,</i>	
	<i>Before this,</i>	<i>In the meanwhile,</i>	
	<i>Currently,</i>	<i>Last, Last but not least, Lastly,</i>	
	<i>During</i>	<i>Later,</i>	
	<i>Eventually,</i>	<i>Meanwhile,</i>	
	<i>Finally,</i>	<i>Next, Soon after,</i>	
	<i>First, Second, Third, etc.</i>	<i>Previously,</i>	
	<i>First of all,</i>	<i>Simultaneously,</i>	
	<i>Formerly</i>	<i>Subsequently,</i>	

	<i>Immediately before,</i>	<i>Then,</i>	
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- To draw readers' attention to a particular location or place

One place	Transition		Another place
	PLACE		
	<i>Adjacent,</i>	<i>In the background,</i>	
	<i>Alongside,</i>	<i>In the distance,</i>	
	<i>At the side,</i>	<i>In the front,</i>	
	<i>Here/There</i>	<i>In the foreground</i>	
	<i>In the back,</i>	<i>Nearby,</i>	

- To let readers know that a digression is about to begin or end

Digression	Transition		Main point
	back to		
Main point	Transition		Digression
	begin		
	DIGRESSION/RESUMPTION		
	<i>Anyhow,</i>	<i>Incidentally,</i>	
	<i>Anyway,</i>	<i>To change the subject,</i>	
	<i>As I was saying,</i>	<i>To get back to the point,</i>	
	<i>At any rate,</i>	<i>To return to the subject,</i>	
	<i>By the way,</i>	<i>To resume,</i>	

Cues that draw readers' attention to cause and effect relationships

- To emphasize a cause or reason

An effect	Transition		Cause/Reason
	move in to		
	CAUSE/REASON		
	<i>As</i>	<i>Because</i>	
	<i>Because of</i>	<i>Due to</i>	
	<i>For</i>	<i>For the simple reason that</i>	
	<i>Since</i>		

- To stress a result or an effect

Cause/Reason	Transition		An effect
	move in to		
	EFFECT/RESULT		
	<i>As a result</i>	<i>So</i>	
	<i>Because of this,</i>	<i>So that</i>	
	<i>For this reason,</i>	<i>Therefore,</i>	
	<i>Consequently,</i>	<i>Thus,</i>	

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- To clarify the purpose of something

Something	Transition		Its purpose
	move in to		
	PURPOSE		
	<i>For fear that</i>	<i>So</i>	
	<i>In the hope that</i>	<i>So that</i>	
	<i>In order to</i>	<i>With this in mind,</i>	

Cues that make readers stop and compare what they've just read to what they're about to read

Just read	Transition		About to read
	equal or not equal		
	COMPARISON/CONTRAST		
	<i>Although/Although this is true</i>	<i>Meanwhile,</i>	
	<i>And yet</i>	<i>Nevertheless,</i>	
	<i>At the same time,</i>	<i>Nonetheless,</i>	
	<i>But</i>	<i>Notwithstanding,</i>	
	<i>Conversely,</i>	<i>On the contrary,</i>	
	<i>For all that,</i>	<i>On the other hand,</i>	
	<i>In comparison,</i>	<i>Similarly,</i>	
	<i>In contrast,</i>	<i>Still,</i>	
	<i>In the same manner/way,</i>	<i>While this is true</i>	
	<i>However,</i>	<i>When in fact</i>	
	<i>Likewise,</i>	<i>Whereas</i>	

Cues that lead readers into statements that clarify or emphasize

- To clarify a point that readers have just read

Point just read	Transition		Clarification
	meaning		
	CLARIFICATION		
	<i>In other words,</i>	<i>That is to say</i>	
	<i>In this case,</i>	<i>Under certain circumstances</i>	
	<i>I mean</i>	<i>Up to a point</i>	
	<i>Put another way</i>		

- To emphasize a point that readers are about to read

Point just read	Transition		Emphatic point
	!!!!		
	EMPHASIS		
	<i>As a matter of fact,</i>	<i>In fact,</i>	
	<i>In any case,</i>	<i>Obviously,</i>	
	<i>In any event,</i>	<i>That is</i>	
	<i>Indeed,</i>	<i>Undoubtedly,</i>	

Cues that lead readers into concessions, reservations, dismissals, or conditions

- To concede a point that readers are likely to think of

Point just read	Transition		Concession
	but maybe		
	CONCLUSION		
	<i>Accordingly,</i>	<i>In short,</i>	
	<i>As a result,</i>	<i>In summary,</i>	
	<i>Consequently,</i>	<i>On the whole,</i>	
	<i>Finally,</i>	<i>So</i>	
	<i>Hence,</i>	<i>Therefore,</i>	
	<i>In brief,</i>	<i>Thus,</i>	
	<i>In conclusion,</i>	<i>To conclude,</i>	

- To clarify for readers the writer's reservations

Point just read	Transition		Reservation
	even so		
	RESERVATION		
	<i>Admittedly,</i>	<i>Indeed,</i>	
	<i>As a matter of fact,</i>	<i>Nevertheless,</i>	
	<i>Even so,</i>	<i>Notwithstanding,</i>	
	<i>Even though</i>	<i>Regardless</i>	
	<i>Despite this</i>		

To dismiss a point that readers are likely to think of

Point may be true	Transition		Dismissal
	BUT		
	DISMISSAL		
	<i>All the same,</i>	<i>In either case,</i>	
	<i>At any rate,</i>	<i>In either event,</i>	
	<i>Either way,</i>	<i>Whatever happens,</i>	
	<i>In any case/event,</i>	<i>Whichever happens,</i>	

- To establish a condition or conditions affecting the subject

The subject is true	Transition		This condition is met
	IF		
	CONDITION		
	<i>Although</i>	<i>Although this is true,</i>	
	<i>But</i>	<i>Even though,</i>	
	<i>However,</i>	<i>In spite of</i>	
	<i>Nevertheless,</i>	<i>Since</i>	

Cues that lead readers into a summary or conclusion

- To repeat a point you've already made

A point	Transition		Point stated differently
	=		
	REPETITION		
	<i>As I have noted,</i>	<i>In brief,</i>	
	<i>As indicated above/earlier,</i>	<i>In short,</i>	
	<i>As I stated,</i>	<i>In summary,</i>	
	<i>As mentioned,</i>	<i>On the whole,</i>	
	<i>As noted earlier,</i>		

- To summarize what you've already said

Points made	Transition		Summary
	nutshell		
	SUMMARY		
	<i>All in all,</i>	<i>In summary,</i>	
	<i>All together,</i>	<i>On the whole,</i>	
	<i>As I mentioned,</i>	<i>Overall,</i>	
	<i>As I stated,</i>	<i>Since</i>	
	<i>Briefly,</i>	<i>So</i>	
	<i>By and large,</i>	<i>Summing up,</i>	
	<i>Finally,</i>	<i>Then,</i>	
	<i>Given these facts,</i>	<i>Therefore,</i>	
	<i>In brief,</i>	<i>To conclude,</i>	

	<i>In conclusion,</i>	<i>To put it briefly,</i>	
	<i>In short,</i>	<i>To summarize,</i>	

- To introduce readers to a conclusion or conclusions

Points made	Transition		Conclusion
		the end is coming	
	CONCLUSION		
	<i>Accordingly,</i>	<i>In short,</i>	
	<i>As a result,</i>	<i>In summary,</i>	
	<i>Consequently,</i>	<i>On the whole,</i>	
	<i>Finally,</i>	<i>So</i>	
	<i>Hence,</i>	<i>Therefore,</i>	
	<i>In brief,</i>	<i>Thus,</i>	
	<i>In conclusion,</i>	<i>To conclude,</i>	

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URL: <http://leo.stcloudstate.edu/style/transitioncues.html>