

## Writing Transitions

In this crazy, mixed-up, topsy-turvy world of ours, transitions glue our ideas and our essays together.

Transitions make your sentences within your paragraphs fit together. They also make your paragraphs fit together and show how they are related. They tell the reader how your paper is organized and guide the reader in how to think about your topic and your ideas.

A transition can be a single word, a phrase, a sentence, or an entire paragraph.

**Transitions between paragraphs:** If you have done a good job of arranging your paragraphs so that one leads logically to the next, your transitions will highlight a relationship that already exists by summarizing the previous paragraph and suggesting something of the content of the paragraph that follows.

**Transitions within paragraphs:** These acts as cues by helping the readers to anticipate what is coming before they read it.

Page 106 of your writesource provides examples.

Example:

(Earlier paragraph was on why I should be able to drive at 16 by myself)

While I presented my case for the benefits of allowing me to drive at sixteen, I also found that it would be advantageous to have a cell phone at age sixteen as well. The ability to drive will give me more freedom, but with that freedom comes great responsibility. For example, let us say that because I am able to drive, I will also be picking up my little brother from practice when necessary. You would be able to call me on the cell phone, and . . . I will take on more responsibility and ease your burden as well. It is for this reason that I should have a later curfew at sixteen as well.

Next paragraph will show:

Transition Words and Phrases

Chronological Order:	first second always then next	later soon before finally earlier	afterwards meanwhile eventually next week tomorrow
Spatial Order:	in front behind next to nearest	lowest above below outside	underneath on the left on the right in the middle
Degree:	mainly strongest weakest first most predominant	second third best	equally important most significant least significant less important least important
Comparison:	similarly likewise in addition	like than as	neither...nor either...or by comparison
Contrast:	however by contrast yet	but unlike instead	nevertheless as opposed to on the other hand
Cause and Effect:	since because thus therefore	so due to owing to accordingly	for this reason if...then as a result as a consequence consequently
Terminal Signals:	in conclusion to conclude in retrospect	to sum up as a result in short	in summary for these reasons as one can see
Red Alert Signals:	however therefore not only...but also moreover	but on the contrary whether...or in order that	nevertheless in addition to both...and provided that
Subordinate Conjunctions:	whether because where as when although than that	after since whenever before whatever unless until while	as long as as though in order that so that provided that if wherever as if