Transitional Words and Phrases

Transitions are important in writing to show how ideas relate. Transitions are used within a paragraph to show connections between ideas; they are also used between paragraphs (at the start of the new paragraph) to connect it to the one before. Strong transitions will create more coherent writing that moves seamlessly between ideas and paragraphs. Below is a list of commonly used transitional words/phrases.

Purpose	Examples
Addition	also, and, another, as well as, besides, both, equally important, first-second-etc., further, furthermore, in addition to, in the same way, in the second place, last, moreover, next, not only/but also, similarly, too
Concession	although, at any rate, at least, even though, granted that, in spite of, of course, still, though, while it may be true
Cause and effect	accordingly, as a result, because, consequently, due to, for this reason, hence, otherwise, since, so, so that, then, therefore, thus, with the result that
Contrast	at the same time, but, contrarily, conversely, however, in contrast, in spite of, instead, nevertheless, nor, notwithstanding, on one hand, on the contrary, or, rather, than, unlike, while this may be true, while, yet
Details	especially, including, in detail, in particular, namely, specifically, to enumerate, to explain, to list
Emphasis	above all, again, also, besides, certainly, clearly, indeed, in fact, in truth, most importantly, notably, of course, obviously, really, significantly, surely, truly, without a doubt

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Examples	as an illustration, for example, for instance, in other words, in particular, to illustrate, such as
Similarity or comparison	just as, just like, likewise, similarly/similar to
Suggestion	for this purpose, therefore, to this end, with this in mind, with this purpose in mind
Summary	finally, in brief, in conclusion, in short, to conclude, to sum up, to summarize
Time and sequence	after, afterward, another, at first, at last, at length, at the same time, before, concurrently, eventually, finally, first-second-etc., formerly, generally, immediately, in order to, in the meantime, last, later, meanwhile, most important, next, once, ordinarily, previously, rarely, simultaneously, soon, subsequently, then, to begin with, usually

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