Transitions

Transitions are a simple but effective way to help the reader move from one part of your writing to the next. Therefore, use these phrases and words between ideas, sentences and paragraphs. These introductory transitions are found at the beginning of a sentence or after a semi-colon; as such, they are usually followed by a comma to set them apart from the rest of the sentence.

Similar Ideas

In addition, Moreover, Likewise, Similarly, In the same way, First, Second, Third…, Finally, Furthermore, In a similar manner, Again, Also

Contrasting Ideas

However, Even so, Nevertheless, Nonetheless, On the other hand, Despite that, Notwithstanding, Conversely, In spite of, Regardless, In contrast

Conclusions

In conclusion, In summary, To summarize, In short, On the whole, In brief,

Concessions (to admit that part - but not much - of the opposing argument is correct)

To be sure, Granted, It is true, Of course, Admittedly, To some extent, To a partial extent, Certainly

Examples and Illustrations

For example, For instance, Indeed, In other words, Specifically, To illustrate, A case in point is…, As an example, To clarify

Cause and Effect

Consequently, Hence, As a result, It follows that, Therefore, Thus, Accordingly

Qualifiers (something that is largely, but not completely, true)

Generally speaking, For the most part, As a trend, Largely speaking, Usually, In general, To a large extent, To a partial extent

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WARNING! UNLESS YOU KNOW WHAT A SUBORDINATE CLAUSE IS, USE THE FOLLOWING TRANSITIONS ONLY IN THE MIDDLE OF SENTENCES: though, even though, although, because, like

USE THE FOLLOWING TRANSITIONS ONLY IN THE MIDDLE OF SENTENCES: but, such as, whereas, so that, which

AVOID THESE COLLOQUIAL, NON-STANDARD TRANSITIONS: all in all, for starters, firstly

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