

Expository Transition Words

You can often connect a main point to the previous paragraph by using transition words in the topic sentence. You can also write a concluding sentence using transition words to connect the paragraph to the next main idea in your outline.

The following examples suggest some possible transition words for different types of expository writing:

- **Cause and Effect:** thus, therefore, for this reason, consequently, due to, as a result, it follows that, hence, accordingly
- **Classify and Divide:** as well, in addition, for example, for instance, in this case, if...then, thus, therefore, that is, despite, regardless, notwithstanding, sometimes, occasionally
- **Compare and Contrast:** in comparison, similarly, likewise, still, yet, nevertheless, in contrast, although, however, conversely, on the contrary, on the other hand.
- **Definition:** that, that is, to, in order to, for, for the purpose of, evidently, obviously, undoubtedly, actually, indeed, in fact, in other words
- **Process:** first, last, finally, before, previously, after, next, then, subsequently, followed by, at the same time, simultaneously, meanwhile

Remember to use transition words and sentences only when they are needed. If your main points are presented in a logical order, you should not need to use too many transition words.