



**Academic Writing Centre**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**

## Transition Words & Phrases

Relationship Signaled	Transitions That Signal the Relationship	Example
<b>addition</b>	also, and, and then, too, in addition, furthermore, moreover, equally important, another, first, second, third..., as well as, that is, besides	The Mayor fully expects the city council to approve his salary recommendations for city employees. <i>In addition</i> , he is certain he will gain support for his road-repair program.
<b>time sequence</b>	now, last, then before, after, afterward, in the end, ultimately, earlier, later, immediately, soon, next, meanwhile, gradually, when suddenly, finally, concurrently, simultaneously, later on, until now, not long ago, to begin with, subsequently, in the beginning, starting with, previously, before, next, often, eventually, in the first place, in the past, formerly, prior to	<i>Before an</i> agreement can be reached between the striking hospital works and management, both sides must soften their stands on the economic issues.
<b>spatial arrangement</b>	near, near to, nearly, far, far from, beside, in front of, next to, beyond, above, below, to the right, to the left, around, surrounding, on one side, inside, outside, across opposite to far off, behind, alongside, there, further, under, in the background, adjacent, in juxtaposition, vis à vis	As you leave the fair grounds, turn right on route 66. <i>Just beyond</i> the junction sign is the turnoff you need.
<b>comparison</b>	in the same way, similarly, just like, just as, in like manner, likewise, also, as well as, correspondingly, in relation to, accordingly	The current administration must not abandon its commitment to the poor. <i>Similarly</i> , it must not forget its promise to the elderly.
<b>contrast</b>	but, still, however, on the other hand, yet, on the contrary, nevertheless, despite, in spite of, conversely, otherwise, at the same time, rather, instead of, in opposition to, although, whereas	<i>In spite of</i> the currently depressed housing market, there is still money to be made in real estate.

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cause & effect	accordingly, it follows, in short, for this reason, because, since, so consequently, hence, as a result, therefore, thus, because of this, then, due to, thereupon	<i>Because</i> of this year's frost, almost 30 percent of the province's fruit crop was lost.
purpose	for this purpose, so that this may occur, in order to, for this reason, so there can be no doubt, to establish	<i>In order</i> to pass the school levy, the school board must make clear just how desperately additional money is needed.
emphasis	indeed, in fact, surely, for one thing, most importantly, to reiterate, on the whole, it is worth repeating, let's reconsider, to explain, undoubtedly, without a doubt, certainly, truly, to be sure, I am certain, absolutely, clearly, obviously, yes, no, all in all, altogether, all told, particularly	Adolescence is not the carefree time some adults view it to be. <i>In fact</i> , it can be the most unsettled period in a person's life.
illustration	for example, for instance, as an illustration, specifically, to be specific, in particular, to be exact, to show, namely, such as	Most of the parents complained that the schools were not tough enough. They said, <i>for example</i> , that their children were rarely assigned homework.
summary or clarification	in summary, in conclusion, as I have shown, in brief, in short, in other words, all in all, that is, too, in closing, generally, of course, actually, to put it another way, finally	The used car Joshua bought requires brake pads, shocks, and a fuel pump. <i>In other words</i> , it was in terrible shape.
admitting a point	although, while this may be true, granted, even though, while it is true that, having said that, while conceding, admittedly, to be fair, at any rate, to be sure, nevertheless, still	<i>While it is true that</i> too many Canadians cannot read and write, this country's literacy rate is among the best in the world.

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