

Transitional Words

Transitions words can be used to improve the flow of a paper by connecting ideas, introduce a shift or contrast ideas, emphasize a point, refute a counterargument, or draw a conclusion. For the most part, students know to use them at the starts of paragraphs. However, transitions should be also used within paragraphs to link ideas and improve the flow of writing. These transitions can also help students when drafting their prewriting into paragraphs.

Prewriting Notes

Argument: Bullying is a major problem in the U.S.

Counterargument: Some adults think kids just need to toughen up.

Research facts to back up argument:

- 1 in 4 teens have been bullied
- 1/3 of bullied teens suffer from depression
- 160,000 students stay home each day out of fear of being bullied

Writing Example without transition within the paragraphs:

Many teens realize bullying is a problem. The majority of adults don't realize that bullying is a significant problem in the United States. The bully prevention website Stomp Out Bullying says one in four teens have been bullied. Twenty-five percent of teens is a large number of teens and one third of these bullied teens also suffer from depression (Kellaher). Some adults still think that kids just need to toughen up since bullying happens in the real world too (Bennett). Bullying is a much bigger problem than kids being mean. The current system of allowing schools and parents deal with bullies and their victims isn't working. 160,000 students stay home each day because they fear being bullied (Stomp Out Bullying). We need to address and stop the bullying in our country.

This students has a strong argument that bullying is a problem in the U.S., uses facts and cites sources, and attempts to address the counter argument, but the ideas do not flow together and end up sounding choppy.

Writing Example with transitions within the paragraphs:

While many teens realize bullying is a problem, the majority of adults don't realize that bullying is a significant problem in the United States. *According to* the bully prevention website Stomp Out Bullying, one in four teens have been bullied. Twenty-five percent of teens is a large number *especially when you consider* that one third of these bullied teens also suffer from depression (Kellaher). *Even with the alarming number of bullied youth,* some adults still think that kids just need to toughen up since bullying happens in the real world too (Bennett). *However with the recent cases of teen suicides related to bullying,* it is obvious that bullying is a much bigger problem than just kids being mean. The current system of allowing schools and parents deal with bullies and their victims obviously isn't working. *Otherwise,* why would around 160,000 students stay home each day because they fear being bullied (Stomp Out Bullying)? *For these reasons,* we need to address and stop the bullying in our country.

Example Transitions for Improving Flow in Writing

Illustration:

- Thus
- for example
- for instance
- namely
- to illustrate
- in other words
- in particular
- specifically
- such as

Contrast:

- On the contrary
- contrarily
- notwithstanding
- but
- however
- nevertheless
- in spite of
- in contrast
- yet
- on one hand
- on the other hand
- rather
- conversely
- at the same time
- while this may be true.

Addition:

- in addition to
- furthermore
- moreover
- besides
- equally important
- not only-but also
- as well as
- likewise
- similarly
- as a result
- in the
- same way

Examples:

- For example
- for instance
- to illustrate
- in other words
- as an illustration

Consequence or Result:

- So that
- with the result that
- thus
- consequently
- hence
- for this reason
- therefore
- as a result

Summary:

- Therefore
- finally
- consequently
- in conclusion

Suggestion:

- For this purpose
- to this end
- with this in mind
- therefore

To Show Text Based Evidence:

- The author stated
- According to the text
- For example
- From the reading, I can infer
- Based on what I read
- In paragraph/On page, the text says

Insert Transitions in the Paragraph Below

Students should not be allowed to drink soda or sugary drinks during lunch. Sugar-sweetened beverages are especially harmful to children. Children who drink at least one serving of sugar-sweetened beverages per day have 55% increased odds of being overweight or obese. Children who drink sugary beverages are more likely to be overweight or obese as adults. Sugar-sweetened beverage consumption among youth has been linked to increased triglycerides the blood, which increases risk for cardiovascular disease. Drinking sugary beverages compromises the overall quality of a young child's diet; sugar-sweetened beverage consumption is associated with inadequate intake of critical nutrients like calcium, iron, and vitamin A.

(Source: http://www.kickthecan.info/files/documents/Health%20Consequences_7.26.13.pdf)