

## Links and Transitions that Writers often Use

The following is only a partial list of the many possible words and phrases you can use to link sentences and paragraphs into a coherent piece of writing. These expressions become signposts to your organization. They let your reader know where you are going next in your essay. Always be sure to select the expression that links ideas logically. Also, remember not to overuse these signposts.

### **To show addition or another fact**

again  
also  
and  
and then  
another  
besides  
but also  
equally important  
finally  
first  
further  
furthermore  
in addition  
in fact  
last  
lastly  
likewise  
moreover  
next  
nor  
plus the fact that  
secondly  
then too  
thirdly  
too

### **To show contrast or change in idea**

although  
anyhow  
anyway  
at the same time  
but  
despite this  
even though  
for all that  
however  
in any event  
in contrast  
instead  
nevertheless  
notwithstanding  
on the contrary  
on the other hand  
otherwise  
still  
yet

### **To show place**

above  
across  
adjacent to  
below  
beneath  
beside  
between  
beyond  
farther  
here  
nearby  
nearer  
on the  
opposite side  
opposite to  
over  
there  
under

### **To show time**

after a few days  
afterward  
at last  
at length  
before  
between  
finally  
immediately  
in the meantime  
later  
meanwhile  
not long after  
soon  
then  
while

### **To show comparison**

in like manner  
in the same way  
likewise  
similarly

### **To show purpose**

all things considered  
for this purpose  
to this end  
with this in mind  
with this object

### **To strengthen a point**

basically  
essentially  
indeed  
truly  
undeniably  
without a doubt  
without any question

**To show summary or repetition**

as has been noted  
as I have said  
finally  
in brief  
in closing  
in conclusion  
in essence  
in other words  
in short  
in summary  
on the whole  
to conclude  
to sum up

**To show a specific case**

a few of these are  
especially  
for example  
for instance  
in particular  
let us consider  
an example  
the following  
you can see this is  
the case of

**To show amount**

few  
greater  
less than  
many  
more than  
most  
over  
under  
several  
smaller  
some

**To show result**

accordingly  
as a result  
because  
consequently  
for this reason  
hence  
so  
then  
therefore  
thereupon  
thus

**Paragraph Without Expressions Linking Ideas**

Public-school teachers are frustrated in their efforts to supply quality classroom instruction. They must compete with extracurricular activities that seem to inspire more enthusiasm among students and administrators than does academic excellence. Teachers see their low salaries as a measure of public attitudes toward the profession of teaching. Teachers are often asked to take on burdensome and unprofessional responsibilities: lunchroom and bus duty, monitoring the halls, collecting locker fees. It follows that major changes in priorities, higher salaries, and professional respect might ease teacher frustration.

**Paragraph With Expressions Linking Ideas**

Public-school teachers are frustrated in their efforts to supply quality classroom instruction. They must, *for example*, compete with extracurricular activities that seem to inspire more enthusiasm among students and administrators than does academic excellence. *Moreover*, teachers see their low salaries as a measure of public attitudes toward the profession of teaching. *Furthermore*, teachers are often asked to take on burdensome and unprofessional responsibilities: lunchroom and bus duty, monitoring the halls, collecting locker fees. *Consequently*, it follows that major changes in priorities, higher salaries, and professional respect might ease teacher frustration.

*Adapted from Britt, S. A Writer's Rhetoric. San Diego: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1988, p.257.*