Interdisciplinary Projects: Transitional Words and Phrases

Usually employed at the beginning of sentences, the following words and phrases can be used to create smooth, effective transitions between certain sentences and paragraphs. Use wisely; do not overuse.

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|  | Purpose of the Transition Word or Phrase | |  |
|  | Transition Words and Phrases |  |
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| 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, or, nor, conversely, at the same time, while this may be true. | | |
| Addition | | | | And, in addition to, furthermore, moreover, besides, than, too, also, both- and, another, equally important, first, second, etc., again, further, last, finally, not only-but also, as well as, in the second place, next, likewise, similarly, in fact, as a result, consequently, in the same way, for example, for instance, however, thus, therefore, otherwise. | | |
| Time | | | | After, afterward, before, then, once, next, last, at last, at length, first, second, etc., at first, formerly, rarely, usually, another, finally, soon, meanwhile, at the same time, for a minute, hour, day, etc., during the morning, day, week, etc., most important, later, ordinarily, to begin with, afterwards, generally, in order to, subsequently, previously, in the meantime, immediately, eventually, concurrently, simultaneously. | | |
| Space | | | | At the left, at the right, in the center, on the side, along the edge, on top, below, beneath, under, around, above, over, straight ahead, at the top, at the bottom, surrounding, opposite, at the rear, at the front, in front of, beside, behind, next to, nearby, in the distance, beyond, in the forefront, in the foreground, within sight, out of sight, across, under, nearer, adjacent, in the background. | | |
| Concession | | | | Although, at any rate, at least, still, though, even though, granted that, while it may be true, in spite of, of course. | | |
| Similarity or Comparison | | | | Similarly, likewise, in like fashion, in like manner, analogous to. | | |
| Emphasis | | | | Above all, indeed, truly, of course, certainly, surely, in fact, really, in truth, again, besides, also, furthermore, in addition. | | |
| Details | | | | Specifically, especially, in particular, to explain, to list, to enumerate, in detail, namely, including. | | |
| Examples | | | | For example, for instance, to illustrate, thus, in other words, as an illustration, in particular. | | |
| Consequence or Result | | | | So that, with the result that, thus, consequently, hence, accordingly, for this reason, therefore, so, because, since, due to, as a result, in other words, then. | | |
| Summary | | | | Therefore, finally, consequently, thus, in short, in conclusion, in brief, as a result, accordingly. | | |
| Suggestion | | For this purpose, to this end, with this in mind, with this purpose in mind, therefore. | | | | |