

# Sentence Starters

When writing and using evidence, here are some good sentence and explanation starters for your essays:

Textual Evidence Sentence Starters	Explanation starters
<p>On page _____, the story states ...</p> <p>In line _____, the character _____ says _____</p> <p>The author wrote ...</p> <p>The author states ...</p> <p>An example is ...</p> <p>According to the text ...</p> <p>The passage _____ proves _____</p> <p>One example that shows this is ...</p> <p>Another example from the text is ...</p> <p>The author shows this by ...</p>	<p>This shows ...</p> <p>This is because ...</p> <p>This means ...</p> <p>This reveals ...</p> <p>This highlights the difference between ...</p> <p>This lets us know that ...</p> <p>The author uses this evidence to ...</p>

# Transition Words

<b>TRANSITION WORDS IN ENGLISH</b>			
<b>Emphasis</b>	<b>Addition</b>	<b>Contrast</b>	<b>Order</b>
<p>Undoubtedly</p> <p>Unquestionably</p> <p>Obviously</p> <p>Particularly / in particular</p> <p>Especially</p> <p>Clearly</p> <p>Importantly</p> <p>Absolutely</p> <p>Definitely</p> <p>Without a doubt</p> <p>Indeed</p> <p>It should be noted</p>	<p>Along with</p> <p>Apart from this</p> <p>Moreover</p> <p>Furthermore</p> <p>Also</p> <p>Too</p> <p>As well as that</p> <p>Besides</p> <p>In addition</p> <p>Not only...but also</p> <p>In addition to this</p> <p>Additionally / an additional</p>	<p>Unlike</p> <p>Nevertheless</p> <p>On the other hand</p> <p>Nonetheless</p> <p>Despite / in spite of</p> <p>In contrast (to)</p> <p>Contrary to</p> <p>Whereas</p> <p>Alternatively</p> <p>Conversely</p> <p>Even so</p> <p>Differing from</p>	<p>Following</p> <p>At this time</p> <p>Previously</p> <p>First/ firstly</p> <p>Second/ secondly</p> <p>Third/ thirdly</p> <p>Finally</p> <p>Subsequently</p> <p>Above all</p> <p>Before</p> <p>Last but not least</p> <p>First and foremost</p>

As a "part of speech," **transition words** are used to link words, phrases or sentences. They help the reader to progress from one idea (expressed by the author) to the next idea. Thus, they help to build up coherent relationships within the text.

## Transitional Words

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This structured list of commonly used English **transition words** — approximately 200, can be considered as quasi complete. It can be used (by students and teachers alike) to find the right expression. English transition words are essential since they not only connect ideas but also can introduce a certain shift, contrast or opposition, emphasis or agreement, purpose, result or conclusion, etc. in the line of argument. The transition words and phrases have been assigned only once to somewhat artificial categories, although some words belong to more than one category.

### Agreement / Addition / Similarity

The transition words like **also, in addition, and, likewise, add information, reinforce ideas**, and **express agreement** with preceding material.

**in the first place**

**not only ... but also**

**as a matter of fact**

**in like manner**

**in addition**

**coupled with**

**in the same fashion /  
way**

**first, second, third**

**in the light of**

**not to mention**

**to say nothing of**

**equally important**

**by the same token**

**again**

**to**

**and**

**also**

**then**

**equally**

**identically**

**uniquely**

**like**

**as**

**too**

**moreover**

as well as  
together with  
of course  
likewise  
comparatively

correspondingly  
similarly  
furthermore  
additionally

## Opposition / Limitation / Contradiction

Transition phrases like *but*, *rather* and *or*, express that there is evidence to the **contrary** or point out **alternatives**, and thus introduce a change the line of reasoning (**contrast**).

although this may be true  
in contrast  
different from  
of course ..., but  
on the other hand  
on the contrary  
at the same time  
in spite of  
even so / though  
be that as it may  
then again  
above all  
in reality  
after all  
but  
(and) still  
unlike  
or

(and) yet  
while  
albeit  
besides  
as much as  
even though  
although  
instead  
whereas  
despite  
conversely  
otherwise  
however  
rather  
nevertheless  
nonetheless  
regardless  
notwithstanding

## Cause / Condition / Purpose

These transitional phrases present specific **conditions** or **intentions**.

**in the event that**  
**granted (that)**  
**as / so long as**  
**on (the) condition**  
**(that)**  
**for the purpose of**  
**with this intention**  
**with this in mind**  
**in the hope that**  
**to the end that**  
**for fear that**  
**in order to**  
**seeing / being that**  
**in view of**  
**If**  
**... then**  
**unless**

**when**  
**whenever**  
**while**  
**because of**  
**as**  
**since**  
**while**  
**lest**  
**in case**  
**provided that**  
**given that**  
**only / even if**  
**so that**  
**so as to**  
**owing to**  
**inasmuch as**  
**due to**

## Examples / Support / Emphasis

These transitional devices (like **especially**) are used to introduce examples as support, to indicate **importance** or as an **illustration** so that an idea is cued to the reader.

**in other words**  
**to put it differently**  
**for one thing**  
**as an illustration**

**in this case**  
**for this reason**  
**to put it another way**  
**that is to say**

**with attention to**  
**by all means**  
**important to realize**  
**another key point**  
**first thing to**  
**remember**  
**most compelling**  
**evidence**  
**must be remembered**  
**point often overlooked**  
**to point out**  
**on the positive side**  
**on the negative side**  
**with this in mind**  
**notably**  
**including**  
**like**  
**to be sure**  
**namely**  
**chiefly**  
**truly**  
**indeed**  
**certainly**

**surely**  
**markedly**  
**such as**  
**especially**  
**explicitly**  
**specifically**  
**expressly**  
**surprisingly**  
**frequently**  
**significantly**  
**particularly**  
**in fact**  
**in general**  
**in particular**  
**in detail**  
**for example**  
**for instance**  
**to demonstrate**  
**to emphasize**  
**to repeat**  
**to clarify**  
**to explain**  
**to enumerate**

## Effect / Consequence / Result

Some of these transition words (*thus, then, accordingly, consequently, therefore, henceforth*) are time words that are used to show that *after* a particular time there was a **consequence** or an **effect**.

Note that *for* and *because* are placed before the cause/reason. The other devices are placed before the consequences or effects.

**as a result**

**under those  
circumstances**

**in that case**

**for this reason**

**in effect**

**for**

**thus**

**because the**

**then**

**hence**

**consequently**

**therefore**

**thereupon**

**forthwith**

**accordingly**

**henceforth**

## Conclusion / Summary / Restatement

These transition words and phrases **conclude, summarize** and / or **restate** ideas, or indicate a final **general statement**. Also some words (like *therefore*) from the **Effect / Consequence** category can be used to summarize.

**as can be seen**

**generally speaking**

**in the final analysis**

**all things considered**

**as shown above**

**in the long run**

**given these points**

**as has been noted**

**in a word**

**for the most part**

**after all**

**in fact**

**in summary**

**in conclusion**

**in short**

**in brief**

**in essence**  
**to summarize**  
**on balance**  
**altogether**  
**overall**  
**ordinarily**  
**usually**  
**by and large**

**to sum up**  
**on the whole**  
**in any event**  
**in either case**  
**all in all**  
**Obviously**  
**Ultimately**  
**Definitely**

### **Time / Chronology / Sequence**

These transitional words (like *finally*) have the function of limiting, restricting, and defining **time**. They can be used either alone or as part of *adverbial expressions*.

**at the present time**  
**from time to time**  
**sooner or later**  
**at the same time**  
**up to the present time**  
**to begin with**  
**in due time**  
**as soon as**  
**as long as**  
**in the meantime**  
**in a moment**  
**without delay**  
**in the first place**  
**all of a sudden**  
**at this instant**  
**first, second**

**immediately**  
**quickly**  
**finally**  
**after**  
**later**  
**last**  
**until**  
**till**  
**since**  
**then**  
**before**  
**hence**  
**since**  
**when**  
**once**  
**about**

**next**

**now**

**formerly**

**suddenly**

**shortly**

**henceforth**

**whenever**

**eventually**

**meanwhile**

**further**

**during**

**in time**

**prior to**

**forthwith**

**straightaway**

**by the time**

**whenever**

**until now**

**now that**

**instantly**

**presently**

**occasionally**

Many transition words in the time category (*consequently; first, second, third; further; hence; henceforth; since; then, when; and whenever*) have other uses.

Except for the numbers (*first, second, third*) and *further* they add a meaning of **time in** expressing conditions, qualifications, or reasons. The numbers are also used to **add information** or **list examples**. *Further* is also used to indicate added space as well as added time.

## **Space / Location / Place**

These transition words are often used as part of *adverbial expressions* and have the function to restrict, limit or qualify **space**. Quite a few of these are also found in the **Time** category and can be used to describe spatial order or spatial reference.

**in the middle**

**to the left/right**

**in front of**

**on this side**

**in the distance**

**here and there**



**in the foreground**  
**in the background**  
**in the center of**  
**adjacent to**  
**opposite to**  
**here**  
**there**  
**next**  
**where**  
**from**  
**over**  
**near**  
**above**  
**below**  
**down**  
**up**

**under**  
**further**  
**beyond**  
**nearby**  
**wherever**  
**around**  
**between**  
**before**  
**alongside**  
**amid**  
**among**  
**beneath**  
**beside**  
**behind**  
**across**

## List of Transition Words

Transition Words and Phrases			
Agreement / Addition / Similarity	in the first place	again	moreover
	not only ... but also	to	as well as
	as a matter of fact	and	together with
	in like manner	also	of course
	in addition	then	likewise
	coupled with	equally	comparatively
	in the same fashion / way	identically	correspondingly
	first, second, third	uniquely	similarly
	in the light of	like	furthermore
	not to mention	as	additionally
	to say nothing of	too	
	equally important		
	by the same token		
Conclusion / Summary / Restatement	as can be seen	after all	overall
	generally speaking	in fact	ordinarily
	in the final analysis	in summary	usually
	all things considered	in conclusion	by and large
	as shown above	in short	to sum up
	in the long run	in brief	on the whole
	given these points	in essence	in any event
	as has been noted	to summarize	in either case
	in a word	on balance	all in all
	for the most part	altogether	

Transition Words are also sometimes called (or put in the category of) Connecting Words.

## Usage of Transition Words in Essays

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Transition words and phrases are vital devices for **essays**, papers or other literary compositions. They improve the connections and transitions between sentences and paragraphs. They thus give the text a logical organization and structure.

All English **transition words** and **phrases** (sometimes also called 'conjunctive adverbs') do the same work as **coordinating conjunctions**: they connect two words, phrases, or clauses together, and thus the text is easier to read and the coherence is improved.

Usage: transition words are used with a special rule for **punctuation**: a semicolon or a period is used after the first 'sentence', and a comma is almost always used to set off the transition word from the second 'sentence'.

**Example 1:**

**People use 43 muscles when they frown; however, they use only 28 muscles when they smile.**

**Example 2:**

**However, transition words can also be placed at the beginning of a new paragraph or sentence - not only to indicate a step forward in the reasoning but also to relate the new material to the preceding thoughts.**

Use a semicolon to connect sentences, only if the group of words on either side of the semicolon is a complete sentence each (both must have a subject and a verb, and could thus stand alone as a complete thought).