



THE WRITING CENTER
The Charles Evans
Inniss Memorial Library

Transitional Words and Phrases

Transitional words and phrases are used to seamlessly move your reader from one point to the next. Here are a few examples of common transitional words and phrases that you can use in your writing.

Addition

additionally

also

besides

finally

first

firstly

further

furthermore

in addition

last

lastly

moreover

next

plus

second

secondly

third

thirdly

what's more

You can use these in the middle or towards the end of a sentence, but NOT the beginning.

again

and

and then

too

Sarah works as a tutor at the writing center. **Additionally**, she works as a college assistant at the Registrar's.

Sarah helped the same student **again** this week.

Sarah works as a tutor at the writing center **and** she works as a college assistant at the Registrar's.

Sarah has a biology class **and then** goes to the writing center.

Besides being a writing center tutor, Sarah **also** works at the Registrar's.

Sarah works as a tutor at the writing center. **Furthermore**, she works as a college assistant at the Registrar's.

Sarah works as a tutor at the writing center. She works as a college assistant at the Registrar's, **too**.

Showing Similarities

as well as

at the same time

comparably

likewise

in like manner

in the same way

similar

similarly

Sarah likes working at the writing center **in the same way** that she likes working at the Registrar's: she enjoys working with people.

Sarah works as a tutor at the writing center. **Likewise**, John works there.

Similarly to Sarah, John works at the writing center.

Showing Difference

after all

although

conversely

even though

however

instead

in another sense

in contrast

still

nevertheless

nonetheless

notwithstanding

on the contrary

on the other hand

rather

though

whereas

while

You can use these in the middle or towards the end of a sentence, but NOT the beginning.

but

yet

Although Sarah works and goes to school, her brother doesn't feel he could handle both.

Sarah works at the writing center, **but** she does not work at the Bursar's.

Even though Sarah works and goes to school, her brother doesn't feel he could handle both.

Sarah works at the writing center. **However**, she does not work at the Bursar's.

Sarah works at the writing center and Registrar's. **In contrast**, her brother is not working.

Though Sarah works and goes to school, her brother doesn't feel he could handle both.

Sarah works at the writing center and Registrar's, **whereas** her brother is not working.

Sarah works at the writing center and Registrar's, **while** her brother is not working.

Sarah works at the writing center, **yet** she does not work at the Bursar's.

Stressing a Point

above all

add to this

and also

equally important

even more

indeed

in any case

in any event

in fact

in other words

obviously

that is

to repeat

Above all, Sarah is dedicated to her school work.

Sarah does not feel like her work schedule is too overwhelming. **Indeed**, she wants to take on more hours.

Sarah does not feel like her work schedule is too overwhelming. **In fact**, she wants to take on more hours.

Sarah is not overwhelmed by her work schedule. **In other words**, she is able to finish all her schoolwork and have free time for other activities.

Concluding & Summarizing

after all
as has been noted
as has been said
finally
for these reasons
in brief
in conclusion
in general
in other words
in short
in sum
in summary
lastly
on the whole
that is
therefore
thus
to conclude
to recapitulate
to sum up

Finally, Sarah enjoys speaking with her work colleagues.

For these reasons, Sarah is going to continue with the same work schedule next semester.

In conclusion, Sarah is doing well at work and at school.

In summary, Sarah is doing well at work and at school.

To conclude, Sarah is doing well at work and at school.

To sum up, Sarah is doing well at work and at school.

Cause and Effect, Proof, or Results

accordingly
as a result
because of this
consequently
for this reason
hence
if
since
so
then
therefore
thus

You can use this in the middle or towards the end of a sentence, but NOT the beginning.

so

Sarah is happy with her work schedule. **Hence**, she will continue it next semester.

If Sarah wasn't happy with her work schedule, **then** she wouldn't continue it next semester.

Sarah is happy with her work schedule. **Therefore**, she will continue it next semester.

Sarah is happy with her work schedule. **Thus**, she will continue it next semester.

Since Sarah is happy with her work schedule, she will continue it next semester.

Sarah is happy with her work schedule, **so** she will continue it next semester.

Location or Direction

above

below

beyond

close

farther on

inside

in the distance

just behind

nearby

next to

opposite

over

to the left

to the right

underneath

Sarah wore her scarf **above** her jacket.

Sarah's bag is **below** the desk.

Sarah lives **close** to MEC.

The writing center is **inside** the library.

Sarah placed her pen **next to** her phone.

Sarah's bag is **underneath** the desk.

Time Sequence

after

afterward
after a short time
after this
as
at last
at the same time
before
during
finally
immediately
in the meantime
in the past
later
meanwhile
next
now
presently
since then
soon
temporarily
then
when
whereupon
while

After she graduated high school, Sarah went straight to MEC.
Sarah worked at the writing center **before** she started working at the Registrar's.

Sarah has class **immediately after** her shift at the writing center.

In the past, Sarah never worked part time.

Now, Sarah works and goes to school.

Presently, Sarah is a student and works part time at MEC.

Sarah will graduate **soon**.