

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 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.