

## Transitional Expressions

A transitional expression is a transitional phrase or a conjunctive adverb that does the following:

- It helps your reader understand how you have organized your material;
- It makes it easier for readers to move from one point to the next in your writing by showing logical connections.

Use transitional expressions to

- a) Add, emphasize, or illustrate ideas
- b) Compare/contrast ideas
- c) Show cause and effect
- d) Place ideas in time
- e) Summarize ideas

A transitional expression is followed by a comma. Remember to use a semicolon between independent clauses linked with a transitional expression:

- I learned all the rules and regulations; however, I never really learned to control the ball.

## Transitional Phrases

Above all

After all

As a matter of fact

As a result

At any rate

At the same time

Even so

Equally as important

For example

For instance

In addition

In comparison/contrast

In conclusion

In fact

In other words

In the first place

On the contrary

On the other hand

To illustrate

## Conjunctive Adverbs

Accordingly  
Also  
Although  
Anyway  
Besides  
Certainly  
Consequently  
Conversely  
Finally  
Furthermore  
Hence  
However  
Incidentally  
Indeed  
Instead  
Likewise  
Meanwhile  
Moreover  
Nevertheless  
Next  
Nonetheless  
Otherwise  
Similarly  
Specifically  
Still  
Subsequently  
Then  
Therefore  
Thus

### Sources Consulted

Boyne, M. et. al. (2005). *Thinking it through: A practical guide to academic essay writing* (3rd ed.). Peterborough: Trent University.

Stewart, K. L. & Allen, M. E. (2000). *Forms of writing: A brief guide and handbook* (3rd ed.). Scarborough: Prentice Hall.