

Transition Words Cheat Sheet

Strategies and Tips for Transition Questions

1. Identify the relationship type between the two sentences.
2. Pick the word that matches the correct type of relationship.
 - a. Two answer choices in the same relationship category (i.e. thus and therefore) can be eliminated.
 - b. If the relationship between the sentences is already clear, no transition word is needed.

Note: This chart is **not** exhaustive, and there will be sentence types and words not mentioned. It focuses on the most common and/or tricky words and relationships.

Relationship	Meaning	Example	Common Words/Phrases
Addition	The second sentence builds off an idea stated in the first sentence.	I like flying because it is fast. Furthermore , it is a safe way to travel.	Also Besides By the same token Furthermore In addition Likewise Moreover Similarly
Example	The first sentence is a statement or claim, and the second sentence provides an example or evidence of that claim.	The five biggest countries in the world have a lot of people in them. For example , India has a population of over 1.3 billion people!	For example For instance Namely Specifically
Causation	The first sentence causes the second sentence to happen.	As a child, I always loved ballroom dancing. Accordingly , I now have a Youtube channel called "Ballroom Dancing for Kids".	Accordingly As a result Consequently Hence Since Therefore Thus
Purpose	An action in the second sentence is done for a reason provided in the first sentence.	I was sick today. For this reason , I did not go to school.	For this reason For this purpose To this end



<p>Contrast</p>	<p>The second sentence is surprising given something stated in the first sentence.</p>	<p>The Houston Astros cheated to win the 2017 World Series. However, the commissioner of baseball did not punish them for it.</p>	<p>Conversely Despite Even so However Nevertheless Nonetheless On the contrary Otherwise Regardless While</p>
<p>Emphasis</p>	<p>The second sentence emphasizes a point or argument stated in the first sentence.</p>	<p>I love the TV show <i>The Bachelor</i>. In fact, I have watched all 24 seasons twice.</p>	<p>Indeed In fact Of course</p>
<p>Concession</p>	<p>The second sentence concedes or qualifies something related to a point or argument stated in the first sentence.</p>	<p>The Declaration of Independence stated that “all men are created equal”. Of course, it did not literally mean <i>all</i> men.</p>	<p>Although At any rate At least Even though Granted that In spite of Of course Still While it may be true</p>