

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

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