

A GUIDE TO

# Transition Words & Phrases

Adapted from the book by Victor C. Pellegrino, 8th ed., 2009

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## TO INDICATE TIME ORDER

### *PAST*

in the past  
in retrospect  
before  
previously

preceding  
former  
formerly  
yesterday

of late  
recently  
not long ago  
once

heretofore  
prior to  
earlier

### *PRESENT*

at present  
presently  
currently  
right away

now / by now  
until / until now  
today  
immediately

at this moment  
simultaneously  
at the same time  
in the meantime

concurrently  
during  
all the while  
meanwhile

### *FUTURE*

in the future  
tomorrow / next year  
henceforth  
from now on

### *AFTER*

afterward  
after a short/long time  
after a while/few days  
soon/not long/right after

thereafter / thereon  
later / later on  
sequentially  
following / following that

# TO INDICATE HOW OR WHEN SOMETHING OCCURS IN TIME

## *SUDDENLY*

all at once	instantaneously	directly	abruptly
in an instant	simultaneously	soon / as soon as	quickly
instantly	immediately	promptly	all of a sudden
just then	thereupon	forthwith	

## *SOMETIMES*

some of the time	rarely / scarcely	temporarily	often
at times	seldom	sporadically	oftentimes
once in a while	uncommonly	intermittently	frequently
occasionally	infrequently	periodically	generally
at that time	usually		

## *ALWAYS*

all of the time	at that time
every time	at the same time
without exception	concurrently
continually	repeatedly

## *SLOWLY*

gradually  
eventually  
little by little  
bit by bit

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# TO INDICATE SEQUENCE

first / at first	initially	subsequently	finally
in the first place	commencing with	in turn	in the end
once	from this point	so far	ultimately
to begin with	second / secondly	later on	
at the beginning	next	last / lastly	

# TO REPEAT

in short	simply stated	again	to reword/rephrase
that is	in simpler terms	once again/more	as stated/noted
that is to say	to put it differently	to repeat/restate	to echo/reiterate
in brief	in other words	to put it another way	

# TO PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE

for example	for instance	to clarify	to be exact
as an example	to illustrate	namely	in detail
to exemplify	to demonstrate	specifically	primarily
for one thing	to explain this	in particular	particularly

# TO CONCEDE

of course	granted / grant that	albeit	at the same time
while it is true	though this may be true	to concur	for all that
admittedly	to make a concession	on the other hand	be that as it may

# TO CONCLUDE OR SUMMARIZE

in conclusion	to finish	in the end	ultimately
to close	in sum	in essence	last / lastly
in closing	to sum it up	to recap/review	finally
all in all	in summary	as a summation	at length

# TO ADD A POINT

also / and	first / second	in addition	beyond that
as well as	further	additionally	moreover
besides	furthermore	to add to that	more than that
equally important	plus	not only ... but also	least/most of all
what's more	yet another	to continue	along with that

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# TO COMPARE

like / as	similar to this	to the same extent	parallel to
in like manner	similarly	in much the same way	consistent with
likewise	comparatively	equivalent to	same as
identically	as compared with	akin to this	in the same way
correspondingly	in comparison	in relation to	just the same
equally	relatively	related to this	in correlation to

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# TO CONTRAST

though / even though	even so	on the other hand	differently
although	for all that	nevertheless	uniquely
yet / and yet	however	nonetheless	rather
but	counter to this	notwithstanding	opposite this
at the same time	contrary to	still / and still	divergent from
despite this	on/to the contrary	conversely	in conflict with
in spite of	in contradiction	in fact	

# TO INDICATE CAUSE AND EFFECT

accordingly  
owing to this  
in effect  
due to this  
hence  
so

as a result  
as a consequence  
consequently  
it follows that  
on account of  
after all

because of this  
for this purpose  
for this reason  
therefore  
thus

since  
otherwise  
thereupon  
to this end  
ergo

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# TO EMPHASIZE OR INTENSIFY

above all  
indeed  
in fact  
as a matter of fact  
of greater concern  
to highlight  
definitely  
certainly  
absolutely  
to be sure  
to enlarge upon  
unquestionably  
besides  
anyway

primarily  
chiefly  
considerably more so  
equally important  
overwhelmingly  
of greater consequence  
to underscore  
by all means  
you can be sure  
without a doubt  
assuredly  
without question  
not the least of which  
no doubt

especially  
importantly  
most of all  
most important  
exceedingly  
emphatically  
decidedly  
unequivocally  
positively  
of course  
naturally  
to add to that  
namely

actually  
notably  
significantly  
increasingly  
urgently  
to emphasize  
to stress  
undoubtedly  
surely  
obviously  
truly  
in truth  
nonetheless