

LIST OF TRANSITIONAL WORDS FOR WRITING ESSAYS

(provided by AP US History scholar John A. Braithwaite)

The following is a list of transition words to help students write more fluently and meaningful essays.

I. Indicating similarity or addition:

again	equally	in fact
also	equally important	in general
and	for	in the same fashion
another	for example	likewise
as	for instance	moreover
as if	further(more)	of course
as much as	in addition	similarly
as though	in addition to	too
besides	in a like manner	

II. Indicating dissimilarity, or contradiction

although	even though	on the contrary
and yet	however	on the other hand
another	in comparison	otherwise
as if	in comparison to	still
away from	in place of	than
besides	in spite of	unfortunately
but	instead	unless
by comparison	less important	whereas
conversely	neither	while
differing from	nevertheless	yet
even if	notwithstanding	

III. Indicating cause, purpose, consequence, or result

as	for this reason	provided that
accordingly	fortunately	since
as a result	hence	so
because	in any case	then
consequently	in fact	therefore
for	it began with	thus
finally	of course	unfortunately

IV. Indicating spatial order or reference

above	behind	here
across	below	in a corner
across from	beneath	in back of
adjacent	beside	in front of

IV. Indicating spatial order or reference (continued)

against	between	inside
alongside	beyond	in the middle
among	down	near
around	eventually	next to
at	facing	on
before	farther	opposite
outside	to the side of	up
over	toward	upon
throughout	under	within
through	underneath	without

V. Indicating chronology or sequence:

after	first, second, etc.	presently
afterward	formerly	provided that
as soon as	hereafter	secondly
at first	in the beginning	since
at last	in the meantime	then
at length	in the second place	thereafter
at present	in the first place	soon
at the same time	later	to begin with
before	meanwhile	until
during	moments later	when
earlier	next	while
finally	now	yet
first of all	once	

VI. Indicating priority or importance

above all	further	next
also	furthermore	of greater
besides	in addition to	of less importance
equally important	in the first place	provided that
first, second, etc.	more(most) important	to begin with
for one reason	moreover	

VII. Indicating example or summary

as a result	in brief	on the whole
as I have said	in conclusion	once
first, second, etc	in fact	second
for example	in other words	specifically
for instance	in short	to sum up
in any case	in the first place	in any event
in the second place		