

Transitional/Directional Word and Phrases

INTENTION OR RELATIONSHIP

CONTRAST OR CHANGE

BUT This word should immediately signal to the reader that a thought reversal is about to take place; She is beautiful, but she shows no liveliness or intelligence.

YET
NEVERTHELESS
HOWEVER These words usually mean that in spite of some fact or thing, an opposite or conflicting idea is true or that something contrary to expectation is about to happen.

ALTHOUGH
EVEN THOUGH Examples: Although we played brilliantly, we lost the game. Bill is an intelligent man; nevertheless he has made a foolish error in judgement.

OTHER CONTRAST OR CHANGE PHRASE/WORDS

Conversely, despite, on the other hand, still, though

CAUSE AND EFFECT

THEREFORE
CONSEQUENTLY
THUS These words indicate that a cause-effect relationship exists in the sentence or paragraph. A statement is made and then a logical conclusion or inference follows it.

Example: The Cougars' quarterback has a broken arm; Therefore, they can't hope to win

BECAUSE
FOR These words prepare the reader for an explanation or defense of something or someone just mentioned. (The word for is usually a preposition but when it connects two ideas, it serves the same purpose as because).

Examples: I am voting for "Chick" Cain for Congressman, because he is my brother.
Wyatt usually shot his victim in ambush, for he did not believe in taking unnecessary chances.

OTHER CAUSE AND EFFECT PHRASES/WORDS

accordingly, for this reason, hence, since, then

CONDITIONIF
UNLESS

These words place a condition on something.

Example: Unless someone paid for it, Wyatt never went to the ball game.I will take your sister to the dance if you pay me ten dollars.**AMPLIFICATION**FOR EXAMPLE
FOR INSTANCE

This phrase indicates an example or illustration is going to follow that will support or explain the idea being discussed.

Examples: Animals usually learn faster when they see some purpose for the training; for example, it took my parakeet three months to learn to say “good morning”, but in eight days it learned how to vacuum the rug.**OTHER AMPLIFICATION PHRASES/WORDS**

in other words, that is

SUMMARYIN CONCLUSION
TO SUMMARIZE
IN SUMMARY

These phrases signal the reader that the author is about to present the general ideas in brief form or is about to list the main ideas discussed earlier.

OTHER SUMMARY PHRASES/WORDS

for these reasons, in brief, in conclusion, to sum up

ORDERFIRST
SECOND
NEXT
FINALLYThese words signal that an important point is about to be made (and that previous one is concluded). First usually introduces a series of illustrations or steps in a process. Finally may also sum up or conclude.**OTHER ORDER WORDS**

Lastly, then

CONCESSION

accepting the data, granted, that, of course

EMPHASIS

above all, indeed, more important, to repeat

INCREASING QUANTITY

also, besides, furthermore, in addition, more over, too

TIME

afterwards, before, formerly, later, meanwhile, now, presently, previously, subsequently, ultimately

EQUAL VALUE

at the same time, likewise, similarly

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