

Mini Lesson on Transition Words

Definition: Transitions are phrases or words used to connect one idea with another. They are used when you shift from one train of thought to the other; in other words, when you change the topic throughout your writing. Most of them are used to explain, support, or highlight an idea.

There are a variety of transitional words that can be used depending on the ideas used. Most of them are used to contrast, add information, clarify, and show cause and effect.

Some of the most common transition words used are *however, because, although, nevertheless, furthermore, even though, in addition, and consequently*.

Examples:

- ❖ *I didn't go to last night's party **because** I had to study for my calculus exam that I had the next day.*
- ❖ *I would have gone to last night's party; **however** I had to study for my calculus exam.*
- ❖ *I stayed studying for my calculus exam last night **even though** there was a party.*

As you can see, the use of transition words affect the way you want to express yourself.

Exercise:

Instructions: Knowing what you acquired from the use of transition words, create a sentence that shifts from one idea to another. (You may use your own essay or the back of this page)

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