

Key transitional words & phrases

The words and phrases listed below can be used as 'signposts' within your writing to provide cues to your reader about the direction your argument is heading, what you think is important, counter-arguments, summary/ concluding statements, etc.

Cues that lead the reader forward

To show addition: To show time:

- Again, Moreover, At length, Later
- Immediately thereafter, Previously,
- And then, Too, Soon, Formerly,
- Besides, Next, After a few hours, First, second, etc
- Further, Lastly, Finally, and then
- Furthermore, What's more, Then

Cues that make the reader stop and compare

- But, Notwithstanding, Although
- Yet, On the other hand, Although this is true,
- And yet, On the contrary, While this is true,
- However, After all, Conversely,
- Still, For all that, Simultaneously,
- Nevertheless, In contrast, Meanwhile
- Nonetheless, At the same time, In the meantime,

Cues that develop and summarise

To give examples: To emphasize: To repeat:

- For instance, Obviously, In brief,
- For example, In fact, In short,
- To demonstrate, As a matter of fact, As I have said,
- To illustrate, Indeed, As I have noted,
- As an illustration, In any case, In other words,
- In any event, That is,

To introduce conclusions: To summarise:

- Hence, In brief,
- Therefore, On the whole,
- Accordingly, Summing up,
- Consequently, To conclude,
- Thus, In conclusion, As a result,

The University of Manchester's Academic Phrasebank contains many more words and phrases:

www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/