USEFUL TRANSITIONS

The appropriate use of transitions is an important element in a well developed, unified paragraph. Writers use transitional words and phrases to indicate connections between various thoughts in order to have a smooth flow of ideas. Such transitional words and phrases help the reader follow the writer's explanation, argument, or story. Some are used to introduce ideas (support statements); some are used to add information or give an example (supporting details); others are used to conclude. Transitions are usually punctuated with a comma since they are generally introductory in nature. The following may be used as a reference to help you incorporate transitions into your paragraphs. (Note - only use them when appropriate; they are not necessary in every sentence.)

**TOPIC SENTENCE**: human subject (when appropriate) + action verb + specific focus/controlling idea

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**First/ First of all/ Firstly/ To begin with/ Initially/ To start/One reason that...**  
**I. MAIN SUPPORT**

**For example/ For instance/ For this reason/ To emphasize/ In fact**

**To illustrate/ Indeed**

**Furthermore/ Also/ Next/ In the same way/ Likewise/ Similarly**

**Again/ Additionally/ In addition/ Another.../ Equally important**

**Likewise/ Moreover/ Further/ As well as.../ Along with.../ Together with...**

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**Second/ Second of all/ Secondly/ Next/ Also/ Similarly/ Another reason that...**  
**II. MAIN SUPPORT**

**In the same way/ Likewise/ Furthermore/ Equally important/ Besides/ Along with...**

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**Third/ Thirdly/ Finally/ Also/ Similarly/ Another reason that...**  
**III. MAIN SUPPORT**

**In the same way/ Likewise/ Furthermore/ Equally important/ Besides/ Along with...**

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**For example/ For instance/ For this reason/ To emphasize/ In fact**

**To illustrate/ Indeed**

**Furthermore/ Also/ Next/ In the same way/ Likewise/ Similarly**

**Again/ Additionally/ In addition/ Another.../ Equally important**

**Likewise/ Moreover/ Further/ As well as.../ Along with.../ Together with...**

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**In conclusion/ To conclude/ As a result/ Consequently/ Thus/ Therefore**  
**Accordingly/ Due to.../ In summary/ To sum up/ In short/ All in All**

CONCLUSION