

## How to Make Phrasal Transitions

### Warm Up

1. If you brought your own essay, could you illustrate what the relationship between each paragraph?
2. Find the transitions words/phrases in your essay and explain why you chose them.

### What are phrasal transitions and how do I form them?

#### Definition

Transitions are words and phrases that clarify a connection between ideas, sentences and paragraphs. Writers are more familiar with basic level of transition words, such as therefore, thus, hence, however, moreover, furthermore, etc. In terms of higher level of transitions, phrasal transition also can help to make the entire writing flow, explicit, cohesive, coherent, logical, and unified.

#### What kind of relationship between your ideas do you want to show to your readers?

Purpose	Connectors
To show the result or cause and effect	Because of, due to, as a result of, by reason of, caused by
To show similar traits	Like, similar to, same as
To set up a contrast	Unlike, contrary to, in contrast to
To add another point	In addition to, along with
To assume or build on ideas	Based on, in light of, in view of, in regard to
To indicate time	Prior to, at this point, at this time
To introduce a result not influenced by a previous factor	Despite, in spite of



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### How to form transition phrases?

Connector	+	Reference Form	+	Classifier
Due to		this		problem
In view of		those		three economic facts
In contrast to		such		obvious feature
In addition to		another		possibility
Similar to		the		previous example
In spite of		these		extant reasons

### Practice Zone

Directions: Read the paragraphs below. Think about how the last sentence or sentences relate(s) to the earlier ones. Then figure out what logical connector + reference form + classifier term you might use in the blank.

1. Over the past several years, the public has received more and more negative information about eating fast food. The nutritional value of fast food has been questioned: often fast food lacks vegetables and whole grains, which provide nutrients and fiber. This food may contain large quantities of sugar, fat, and salt, which have been linked to obesity and type II diabetes. \_\_\_\_\_, more and more people seem to be eating at fast food restaurants, probably for the convenience and low prices.
2. The fast food industry, however, has responded. Now customers are greeted with signs on the windows of restaurants stating that the food is made without trans-fats. And, menus have begun to include salads, fruit, and lighter options that are lower fat and carbohydrates. In fact, restaurants even publish the nutritional information about each item on the menu. \_\_\_\_\_, it might now be possible to find healthier options at fast food restaurants.

Possible transitions: 1. Contrary to those disadvantages of fast food; 2. On account of such obvious instructions. (Answers can be multiple)

**References** - The following work was referred to during the creation of this handout: [Vocabulary Instruction for Diverse Student Writers](#).



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