

Transition Signals

An essay has **unity** and **coherence**, just as a paragraph does. **Transition signals** and the **repetition of key nouns** link the paragraphs into a cohesive whole.

Transition Signals

Meaning/ Function	Transition Phrases	Conjunctive Adverbs	Coordinating Conjunctions	Subordinating Conjunctions	Others
To introduce an additional idea	in addition	furthermore moreover besides also too	and		another (+ noun) an additional (+ noun)
To introduce an opposite idea or contrast	on the other hand in contrast	however nevertheless instead still nonetheless	but yet	although though even though whereas while	in spite of (+ noun) despite (+ noun)
To introduce a choice or alternative		otherwise	or	if unless	
To introduce a restatement or explanation	in fact indeed	that is			
To list in order	first, second, third next, last, finally				the first, second, third, etc. the next, last, final
To introduce an example	for example for instance				an example of (+ noun) such as (+ noun)
To introduce a conclusion or summary	clearly in brief in conclusion indeed in short in summary				
To introduce a result	accordingly as a result as a consequence	therefore consequently hence thus	so		

Put the following transitions in the appropriate spaces:
Finally, After a while, Most importantly,
However, Although, At the same time ,
At first, Soon , Later,

First Day at University

Activity

What important days in your life do you remember? I remember my first day at university very clearly. I felt excited and happy. 1 _____ I was very nervous because I didn't know anyone. 2 _____, my first day at university was memorable.

3 _____ I was confused and lost. I didn't know where to go. I had to ask a stranger where the first year students were going to meet. This person was very polite and showed me the way. I walked through some big buildings, and when I arrived I saw many students and I felt scared.

4 _____ I told myself to be braver. I asked one girl what was happening and we discovered that we were in the same group. We introduced ourselves. Her name was May. We joined in with the activities for "freshie" students. 5 _____ I started feeling much better. The activities helped me feel part of a team and I was beginning to feel that I had become a university student.

6 _____, we began our classes. However, all our classmates were quiet. The teacher talked for a while and then we introduced ourselves. I met two girls. Their names were June and Apple. Soon we became good friends and started chatting and learnt more about each other. 7 _____ we came from different provinces we had a lot in common. We spent the rest of the day together until we had to go home.

I am always going to remember that day because I had the opportunity to meet many people. 8 _____ I met the best friends that I have ever had. 9 _____. I think that it is natural that on the first day at university we feel nervous, but often difficult experiences have happy endings. That's why I say that my first day in the university was very memorable.

First day at University

What important days in your life do you remember? I remember my first day at university very clearly. I felt excited and happy. 1 At the same time I was very nervous because I didn't know anyone. 2 However, my first day at university was memorable.

3 At first I was confused and lost. I didn't know where to go. I had to ask a stranger where the first year students were going to meet. This person was very polite and showed me the way. I walked through some big buildings, and when I arrived I saw many students and I felt scared.

4 After a while I told myself to be braver. I asked one girl what was happening and we discovered that we were in the same group. We introduced ourselves. Her name was May. We joined in with the activities for "freshie" students. 5 Soon, I started feeling much better. The activities helped me feel part of a team and I was beginning to feel that I had become a university student.

6 Later, we began our classes. However, all our classmates were quiet. The teacher talked for a while and then we introduced ourselves. I met two girls. Their names were June and Apple. Soon we became good friends and started chatting and learnt more about each other. 7 Although we came from different provinces we had a lot in common. We spent the rest of the day together until we had to go home.

I am always going to remember that day because I had the opportunity to meet many people. 8 Most importantly, I met the best friends that I have ever had. 9 Finally, I think that it is natural that on the first day at university we feel nervous, but often difficult experiences have happy endings. That's why I say that my first day in the university was very memorable.

Answers

Transition Signals

Transition Signals and Conjunctive Adverbs	Coordinating Conjunctions and Paired Conjunctions	Subordinating Conjunctions	Others: Adjectives, Prepositions, Verbs
To list ideas in order of time			
first, ... first of all, ... second, ... third, ... next, ... then ... after that, ... meanwhile, ... in the meantime, ... finally, ... last, ... last of all, ... subsequently, ...		before after until when while as soon as since	the first (reason, cause, step, etc.) the second ... the third ... another ... the last ... the final ...

To list ideas in order of importance

first, ...
 first of all, ...
 first and foremost, ...
 second, ...
 more important, ...
 most important, ...
 more significantly, ...
 most significantly, ...
 above all, ...
 most of all, ...

the first ... (reason,
 cause, step, etc.)
 an additional ...
 the second ...
 another ...
 a more important
 (reason, cause,
 step, etc.)
 the most important ...
 the most significant ...
 the best/the worst ...

To add a similar or equal idea

also, ...
 besides, ...
 furthermore, ...
 in addition, ...
 moreover, ...
 too
 as well

and
 both ... and
 not only ... but also

another ... (reason,
 cause, step, etc.)
 a second ...
 an additional ...
 a final ...
 as well as

To add an opposite idea

however, ...
 on the other hand, ...
 nevertheless, ...
 nonetheless, ...
 still, ...

but
 yet

although
 even though
 though

despite
 in spite of

To explain or restate an idea

in other words, ...
 in particular, ...
 (more) specifically, ...
 that is, ...

To make a stronger statement

indeed, ...
 in fact, ...

To give another possibility

alternatively, ...
 on the other hand, ...
 otherwise, ...

or
 either ... or
 whether ... or

To give an example

for example, ...
 for instance, ...

such as
 an example of
 to exemplify

To express an opinion

according to ...
 in my opinion, ...
 in my view, ...

to believe (that)
 to feel (that)
 to think (that)

To give a reason

for this reason, . . .

for

because

as a result of
because of
due to**To give a result**accordingly, . . .
as a consequence, . . .

so

as a result, . . .
consequently, . . .
for these reasons, . . .
hence, . . .
therefore, . . .
thus, . . .the cause of
the reason for
to cause
to result (in)
to have an effect on
to affect**To add a conclusion**all in all, . . .
in brief, . . .
in short, . . .
to conclude, . . .
to summarize, . . .
in conclusion, . . .
in summary, . . .
for these reasons, . . .**To show similarities**likewise, . . .
similarly, . . .
alsoand
both . . . and
not only . . . but also
neither . . . noralike, like, just like
as, just as
as well
as well as
compared with or to
in comparison with or to
to be similar (to)
too**To show differences**however, . . .
in contrast, . . .
instead, . . .
on the contrary, . . .
on the other hand, . . .
rather, . . .

instead of

B. Fill in each blank with an appropriate transition signal from the list provided. Use each signal only once. Add punctuation if necessary.

for example in fact similarly also
indeed third second final and most convincing

Time

One stereotype about North Americans says that they are obsessed with⁵ time. It sometimes seems true that for North Americans, time seems as valuable as money. (1) _____ they even say, "Time is money." (2) _____ have you noticed how many verbs can be followed by both time and money? (3) _____ you can *spend time*, *save time*, *lose time*, *find time*, *make time*, *waste time*, and *run out of time*. (4) _____ you can spend, save, lose, find, make, waste, and run out of money. (5) _____ North Americans seem to regard time as a "thing" that one can own. You can *have time*, *buy time*, and *take time*. (One wonders how much it costs and where it is taken.) A (6) _____ piece of evidence that North Americans are obsessed with time is their fanaticism about always being on time. (7) _____ people who are habitually late risk punishment ranging from frowning disapproval to losing their jobs. The (8) _____ proof is that these poor people sometimes take courses in time management! That is really overdoing it, don't you agree?