



Transitions

What are transitions?

The purpose of academic writing is to express information clearly and concisely. Transitions help you to do this by establishing connections throughout the paper between sentences, paragraphs, and sections of the paper. A transition can come in the form of:

- a phrase
- a sentence
- another paragraph altogether that helps the readers flow into the new information

How do transitions help the reader?

Transitions help provide the reader with directions on how to piece ideas of the paper together and add organization. The purpose of transitions is to help the reader and writer stay on track and move from one topic to the next.

Transitions cannot substitute for good organization, but they make the organization of the paper clearer and easier to follow.

Transitions Between Paragraphs – Transition Sentences

Instead of treating paragraphs as complete, separate ideas, transitions help the reader see how the paragraphs work together and build to a larger point. Transition sentences sum up the paragraph and preview the coming paragraph. Transitional sentences can occur:

- at the end of the first paragraph
- at the beginning of the second paragraph
- or in both places

However, that person's feelings of caution slowly become a perverse idea of what it would be like to fall. They wonder how the rushing wind would feel as they quickly descended to their death. Of course, the person doesn't *actually* want to fall, but that tiny glimmer of wonder and fascination at "what if" is what he calls **the imp**.

Any impulse anyone has, no matter how fleeting, that may cause the person harm is that person's imp. The narrator blames these thoughts on the spirit of the Perverse. He explains that a person has these awful thoughts and ideas simply because he shouldn't.



Transitions Within Paragraphs – Transitional Expressions

Transitions are not limited to the beginning or end of a paragraph. Transitional words are used within paragraphs to show a connection between two ideas and allow the reader to move from one idea to another.

PURPOSE	COMMON WORDS TO USE
TO SHOW ADDITION OR ADD TO THE PAPER	again, also, as well as, and, and then, besides, equally important, finally, further, furthermore, nor, too, next, lastly, what’s more, moreover, in addition, first, second
TO SHOW SIMILARITIES OR COMPARE	also, whereas, but, yet, on the other hand, however, likewise, nevertheless, on the contrary, by comparison, where, compared to, up against, balanced against, but, although conversely, meanwhile, after all, in contrast, although this may be true
TO PROVE	because, for, since, for the same reason, obviously, evidently, furthermore, moreover, besides, indeed, in fact, in addition, in any case, that is, for instance, specifically
TO SHOW EXCEPTIONS	but, contrary, yet, still, however, nevertheless, in spite of, despite, of course, once in a while, sometimes
TO INDICATE SEQUENCE OR SHOW TIME	immediately, thereafter, soon, after a few hours, finally, then, later, previously, formerly, first, second, etc., next, and then, now, recently
TO CONCLUDE OR REPEAT AN IDEA	in brief, on the whole, summing up, to conclude, in conclusion, hence, therefore, accordingly, thus, as a result, consequently
TO EMPHASIZE A POINT	definitely, extremely, obviously, in fact, indeed, in any case, absolutely, positively, naturally, surprisingly, always, forever, never, emphatically, unquestionably, without a doubt, certainly, undeniably, without reservation
TO SHOW SEQUENCE	first, second, third, following this, at this time, now, at this point, after, subsequently, finally, consequently, previously, before this, simultaneously, thus, therefore, hence, next, and then, soon
TO GIVE AN EXAMPLE	for example, for instance, in this case, in another case, on this occasion, in this situation, take the case of, to demonstrate, to illustrate

Edgar Allan Poe was most popular during the Romantic era for his perversely whimsical poetry. His work was **not only** dark, with depictions of loss in some of the most gruesome of ways, **but also** showed his curiosity for the human mind and desire to understand man’s pull towards self-destruction.