

TRANSITION WORDS

Transition words are used to link sentences and ideas. If you use them correctly, your writing will be easier to understand and more mature. Look for transitions when you are reading the newspaper, a magazine, or a book. Notice how other writers have used these words, then try to use them yourself in your own writing.

Directions: For practice, use the transitions at the right in the sentences at the left. In each group, use a transition only once. Read each sentence carefully so that you can choose an appropriate transition. Capitalize when necessary.

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| 1. I would like to see you tomorrow, _____ let's have lunch together. | for example |
| 2. My sister loves to eat, _____ I don't care much about food. | finally |
| 3. When you begin an exercise program, you must be careful not to overdo it.
My father, _____, hurt his back by exercising too hard without warming up first. | but
so
still |
| 4. She had looked everywhere for a job; _____, she was called for an interview. | beyond
to the left |
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| 5. She had been studying for hours. _____, she hoped to do well on the test. | similarly
third
nevertheless |
| 6. First, Mary went to the store. _____, she went to visit her mother. | however |
| 7. I would like to read many books; _____, I don't seem to have enough time to read. | as a result
then |
| 8. John ate and ate; _____, he never gained weight. | for instance |
| 9. Joe ate too fast. _____, he had indigestion. | therefore |
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| 10. He stayed up too late last night; _____, he slept until noon. | meanwhile |
| 11. I want you to buy milk, eggs, and fruit juice; _____, I want you to be sure to get cereal and ice cream. | furthermore
first |
| 12. I was concentrating on my homework. _____, the soup boiled over. | third
in fact |
| 13. _____, I will boil the water. Second, I will brew the tea, and _____, I will serve it. | until then
consequently |
| 14. Joe, _____, happens to be my best friend. | in contrast |
| 15. Jane studies all the time; _____, Billy never studies. | |

Using Transitions