

TRANSITIONAL DEVICES

Introduction

Transitional devices (also known as transition words or linking words) are words and phrases that connect ideas, sentences, or paragraphs smoothly so that writing flows logically and clearly. They show relationships between ideas such as **time, contrast, cause and effect, sequence, addition, and emphasis**.

Using them properly makes writing coherent and easier to follow.

TYPES OF TRANSITIONAL DEVICES

1. Time / Chronological Order

Used to show the timing or sequence of events.

Examples:

1. First, we prepared all the materials for the experiment.
2. Then, we mixed the ingredients carefully.
3. Meanwhile, the teacher explained the next step.
4. After that, we recorded our observations.
5. Before the class ended, we cleaned up the lab.
6. Later, we discussed our results.
7. Finally, we submitted the report.
8. Subsequently, the results were analyzed.
9. At the same time, another group was conducting research.
10. In the end, everyone learned something new.

2. Contrast / Opposition

Used to show difference or contradiction between ideas.

Examples:

1. I wanted to go out; however, it started to rain.
2. Although he studied hard, he failed the test.
3. On the other hand, her idea sounds more practical.
4. In contrast, the previous plan was less effective.
5. Nevertheless, he continued working with determination.
6. Yet, success didn't come easily.
7. Even though it was late, we continued the meeting.
8. Whereas some people prefer cities, others enjoy villages.
9. Despite his injury, he finished the race.
10. But she refused to give up.

3. Cause and Effect

Used to show reasons or results.

Examples:

1. He was late because he missed the bus.
2. Therefore, the meeting started without him.
3. As a result, he missed the discussion.
4. Consequently, he had to ask for a summary.
5. Thus, he learned the importance of punctuality.
6. Since it rained, the match was postponed.
7. Hence, the players stayed indoors.
8. Due to the storm, all flights were delayed.
9. Owing to his efforts, the project succeeded.
10. So, the team celebrated together.

4. Sequence / Order

Used to show the order of ideas or steps.

Examples:

1. To begin with, gather all the materials.
2. Secondly, make sure everything is clean.
3. Next, start mixing the ingredients.
4. Afterward, bake for 30 minutes.
5. Then, allow it to cool.
6. Following this, decorate the cake.
7. Subsequently, serve it to guests.
8. Finally, enjoy your dessert.
9. In conclusion, the recipe was easy to follow.
10. To sum up, baking can be fun and creative.

5. Addition

Used to add similar or supporting ideas.

Examples:

1. Moreover, students must complete their assignments.
2. In addition, they should revise daily.
3. Furthermore, attendance affects their grades.
4. Also, group work helps in understanding.
5. Besides, teachers appreciate active participation.
6. Similarly, homework improves performance.
7. As well as that, reading enhances vocabulary.
8. Not only this, but it also builds confidence.
9. Additionally, it develops discipline.
10. Apart from that, it encourages responsibility.

6. Emphasis

Used to highlight or stress important ideas.

Examples:

1. Indeed, honesty is the best policy.
2. In fact, many people value truth above all.
3. Above all, remain kind and humble.
4. Most importantly, never give up.
5. Undoubtedly, education changes lives.
6. Truly, hard work brings success.
7. Especially, children need care and attention.
8. Certainly, practice makes perfect.
9. Obviously, discipline is key to growth.
10. Clearly, teamwork produces better results.

7. Comparison / Similarity

Used to show likeness or similarity.

Examples:

1. Similarly, her opinion matched his.
2. Likewise, the results were identical.
3. In the same way, the next group performed well.
4. Just as honesty builds trust, kindness builds respect.
5. Equally, patience is a great virtue.
6. Correspondingly, the teacher gave similar grades.
7. As with previous examples, the outcome was positive.
8. In like manner, we followed the same procedure.
9. Comparable to last year, this year's results improved.
10. Just like her sister, she is very talented.

PRACTICE SECTION # 01

Fill in the blanks with appropriate transitional devices. (30 Marks)

(Type of transition is mentioned for guidance —fill suitable words.)

1. _____, the students gathered in the hall for assembly. (Time)
2. The road was blocked; _____, we had to take another route. (Cause & Effect)
3. She studied all night; _____, she still failed. (Contrast)
4. He worked hard. _____, he achieved his dream. (Cause & Effect)
5. _____, let's discuss the next chapter. (Sequence)
6. The test was difficult. _____, everyone tried their best. (Addition)
7. _____, teamwork is essential for success. (Emphasis)
8. The boys played cricket. _____, the girls practiced basketball. (Time)
9. _____ she apologized, he refused to forgive her. (Contrast)
10. The machine stopped _____ power failure. (Cause & Effect)
11. _____, gather all the materials before starting. (Sequence)
12. _____, we left the house for a picnic. (Time)
13. He didn't call; _____, I sent him a message. (Cause & Effect)

14. I love tea. _____, I enjoy coffee. (Addition)

15. The results were poor. _____, the teachers planned remedial sessions. (Cause & Effect)

16. _____, students should complete their homework. (Emphasis)

17. _____ he was tired, he continued working. (Contrast)

18. The movie was boring; _____, we left early. (Cause & Effect)

19. I missed the lecture. _____, I read the notes later. (Sequence)

20. _____, he forgot to submit his report. (Time)

21. The project was successful. _____, it brought new opportunities. (Addition)

22. _____, the meeting was delayed by an hour. (Time)

23. I respect him. _____, he is a man of integrity. (Emphasis)

24. _____ she was talented, she failed to impress the judges. (Contrast)

25. _____, we reviewed the experiment results. (Sequence)

26. He didn't study; _____, he failed. (Cause & Effect)

27. _____, honesty is the foundation of trust. (Emphasis)

28. The teacher praised her. _____, she worked sincerely. (Cause & Effect)

29. _____, they celebrated their victory. (Time)

30. I enjoy painting. _____, I love music. (Addition)

ANSWER KEY

1. First	16. Most importantly
2. Therefore	17. Although
3. However	18. Therefore
4. As a result	19. Afterward
5. Next	20. Finally
6. Moreover	21. Furthermore
7. Above all	22. Earlier
8. Meanwhile	23. Indeed
9. Although	24. Though
10. Due to	25. Subsequently
11. To begin with	26. Thus
12. Later	27. In fact
13. So	28. Because
14. Likewise	29. Then
15. Consequently	30. Also

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PRACTICE SECTION # 02

Q1. 1- Time | 2- Contrast | 3- Cause & Effect | 4- Sequence | 5- Emphasis | 6- Addition

The teacher warned Ali about his declining grades. He promised to improve. _____ 1 he reached home, he opened his books. He was tired; _____ 2, he continued studying. He worked hard _____ 3 he wanted to pass. _____ 4, he made a complete study plan. _____ 5, he set a strict timetable _____ 6 added short breaks.

Q2. 1- Sequence | 2- Contrast | 3- Emphasis | 4- Time | 5- Cause & Effect | 6- Addition

Sara wanted to bake a cake for her mother's birthday. _____ 1, she gathered all the ingredients. She had never baked before; _____ 2, she didn't hesitate. She loved her mother _____ 3 she wanted it to be perfect. _____ 4 the cake was ready, she decorated it. _____ 5, her mother became emotional _____ 6 praised her efforts.

Q3. 1- Addition | 2- Time | 3- Contrast | 4- Cause & Effect | 5- Emphasis | 6- Sequence

The students completed their science project. _____ 1, they prepared a presentation. _____ 2 they arrived in class, they felt confident. They were nervous; _____ 3, they spoke clearly. Their teamwork was strong _____ 4 they earned full marks. _____ 5, the teacher appreciated their creativity _____ 6 asked them to display the model.

Q4. 1- Contrast | 2- Addition | 3- Time | 4- Emphasis | 5- Cause & Effect | 6- Sequence

Hassan wanted to join the football team. He was short; _____ 1, he was very fast. He trained daily; _____ 2, he improved his stamina. _____ 3 he appeared for the trials, he performed well. He practiced hard _____ 4 he never missed a single day. _____ 5, he secured a position on the team _____ 6 became the youngest player.

Q5. 1- Time | 2- Sequence | 3- Contrast | 4- Addition | 5- Cause & Effect | 6- Emphasis

The volunteers arrived at the flood relief camp. _____ 1, they began organising supplies. _____ 2, they created separate sections for food and medicine. The weather was harsh; _____ 3, they worked tirelessly. _____ 4, they distributed blankets to families. The camp became more efficient _____ 5 their teamwork. _____ 6, their effort saved many lives.

Q6. 1- Cause & Effect | 2- Contrast | 3- Emphasis | 4- Addition | 5- Time | 6- Sequence

The town installed security cameras everywhere _____ 1 crime rates had risen. People were scared; _____ 2, they continued their daily routines. The mayor promised safety _____ 3 he increased police patrols. _____ 4, he improved street lighting. _____ 5 the changes were implemented, crime began to decrease. _____ 6, citizens felt safer again.

Q7. 1- Sequence | 2- Time | 3- Addition | 4- Contrast | 5- Emphasis | 6- Cause & Effect

Fiza decided to start exercising daily. _____ 1, she bought a yoga mat. _____ 2 she woke up early, she began stretching. She added light jogging _____ 3 felt energetic. She got tired sometimes; _____ 4, she never quit. She wanted to stay healthy _____ 5 followed the routine strictly. _____ 6, she became more active and confident.

Q8. 1- Contrast | 2- Sequence | 3- Time | 4- Cause & Effect | 5- Addition | 6- Emphasis

The farmer faced a severe drought. Water was scarce; _____ 1, he tried to save every drop. _____ 2, he dug a small well. _____ 3 the rain finally came, he stored the water carefully. His crops survived _____ 4 his smart planning. _____ 5, he shared his stored water with neighbours. _____ 6, everyone praised his kindness.

Q9. 1- Emphasis | 2- Cause & Effect | 3- Sequence | 4- Time | 5- Contrast | 6- Addition

Ayesha wanted to learn digital art. She was determined _____ 1 she practiced for hours. Her skills improved _____ 2 she used online tutorials. _____ 3, she bought a drawing tablet.

..... 4 she opened her first software, she felt excited. She made mistakes; 5, she kept trying. 6, she joined an online art community.

Q10. 1- Addition | 2- Emphasis | 3- Contrast | 4- Cause & Effect | 5- Sequence | 6- Time

The community planned a cleanliness drive. 1, students participated actively. They wanted a clean environment 2 they worked hard. It was a hot day; 3, everyone stayed focused. The streets looked better 4 people removed litter. 5, they planted new trees. 6 the event ended, everyone felt proud.
