

## **Transitions**

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Transitions connect two sentences, two paragraphs, or two major areas of analysis. They also link examples to the points in the paper that they are illustrating. Ideally, a transition eliminates choppiness and effectively introduces the writer's next point. Choppiness often occurs when a writer switches points or subjects without explanation. So when moving from one paragraph or point to another, a writer uses an effective transition that emphasizes the relationship between the previous point and the approaching one.

There are a few different kinds of transitions that you can use. Below, you will find examples of good transition sentences.

A *Comparison Transition Sentence* is what you use when you compare something you've already talked about to what you're going to talk about in your paragraph. This sentence uses key words such as "although", "whereas", or "however".

Although North Korea continues to demonstrate its power through missile testing, its sister country has chosen to focus on peaceful communication.

An *Exception Transition Sentence* is what you use when you're about to talk about something that isn't consistent with what you've been talking about. This sentence uses key words such as "still", "despite", or "of course" to signal the change in topic.

Despite years spent in isolation, North Korea recently marked its first congressional meeting in decades by inviting over 100 journalists into the country.

An *Addition Transition Sentence* is what you use when you're just adding another point onto your main topic. This kind of sentence uses key words such as "furthermore", "in addition", "next", or "lastly".

Furthermore, in recent years North Korea has showed a marked increase in smartphone usage.

When incorporating topic sentences in your paper, you may also avoid unexpected topic changes or choppy word usage by incorporating key words or phrases from your previous paragraph. Connecting subtopics to each other can help to create a cohesive paper, and can keep your reader invested in your original thesis statement.