### Use of Transitions

To achieve coherence (to pull the ideas together, to make the ideas flow smoothly) the writer needs to be organized. But structure and organization alone are not enough to achieve coherence. **The writer must effectively use transitional words and phrases**.

There are many transitions with different purposes, but essentially all the transitions are connectors, and all essays need them. Keep this list handy, as it will serve you in all of your high school writing assignments.

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| **PURPOSE:** | **USE THESE TRANSITIONS:** |
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| To connect similar ideas, to add another thought | Besides, also, what’s more, moreover, furthermore, additionally, in addition, again, another, as a result, therefore, consequently, indeed, in fact |
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| To arrange ideas in order, chronologically | Initially, primarily, next, then, finally, meanwhile, later, since, afterwards, eventually |
|  |  |
| To add emphasis | Above all, indeed, clearly, truly, especially, of course, certainly, surely, in fact, in truth, also, furthermore, additionally |
|  |  |
| To connect contrasting ideas | But, still, however, yet, on the other hand, nevertheless, in spite of, conversely, contrastingly, in contrast, in opposition to, on the contrary |
|  |  |
| To connect similar ideas (comparisons) | Similarly, in comparison, likewise, just as, additionally, moreover, also, in the same way, equally, correspondingly, and, both |
|  |  |
| To add explanation | For example, for instance, in other words, in particular, such as, namely, specifically, to illustrate, therefore, to demonstrate, to indicate, as such, to be clear, clearly |
|  |  |
| To connect ideas that follow each other | So, therefore, consequently, accordingly, as a result, so that, thus, hence, because, due to, of course |
|  |  |
| To summarize | Finally, therefore, in brief, thus, clearly, indeed, surely, lastly, ultimately, essentially |