LIST OF TRANSITIONAL WORDS FOR WRITING ESSAYS

John A. Braithwaite

The following is a list of transition words to help students write more fluently and meaningful essays.

I. Indicating similarity or addition:
again equally in fact
also equally important in general
and for in the same fashion
another for example likewise
as for instance moreover
as if further(more) of course
as much as in addition similarly
as though in addition to too
besides in a like manner

II. Indicating dissimilarity, or contradiction:
although even though on the contrary
and yet however on the other hand
another in comparison otherwise
as if in comparison to still
away from in place of than
besides in spite of unfortunately
but instead unless
by comparison less important whereas
conversely neither while
differing from nevertheless yet
even if notwithstanding

III. Indicating cause, purpose, consequence, or result:
as for this reason provided that
accordingly fortunately since
as a result hence so
because in any case then
consequently in fact therefore
for it began with thus
finally or course unfortunately

IV. Indicating spatial order or reference:
above behind here
across below in a corner
across from beneath in back of
adjacent beside in front of
against between inside
alongside beyond in the middle
among down near
around eventually next to
at facing on
before farther opposite
outside to the side of up
over toward upon
throughout under within
through underneath without
V. Indicating Chronology or Sequence:

after  first, second, etc.  presently
afterward  formerly  provided that
as soon as  hereafter  secondly
at first  in the beginning  since
at last  in the meantime  then
at length  in the second place  thereafter
at present  in the first place  soon
at the same time  later  to begin with
before  meanwhile  until
during  moments later  when
earlier  next  while
finally  now  yet
first of all  once

VI. Indicating propriety or importance:

above all  further  next
also  furthermore  or greater
besides  in addition to  of less importance
equally important  in the first place  provided that
first, second, etc.  more (most) important  to begin with
for one reason  moreover

VII. Indicating example or summary

as a result  in brief  on the whole
first, second, etc.  in conclusion  once
for example  in fact  second
for instance  in other words  specifically
in any case  in short  to sum up
in the second place  in the first place  in any event