**English connectives (transitionals) guide**

Transitional words make for smooth flow among words, phrases, and ideas in writing and speaking (they are also called connectors or connectives). Ideas may be linked as a sequence, comparison, contrast, cause-effect, conditional expressions, and other types of meaning relationships. Transitionals usually consist of these types of words: coordinating conjunctions, subordinating conjunctions (linking a subordinate or dependent clause with a main clause), adverbials used like conjunctions, phrases used like adverbial connectives, and prepositions (followed by nouns, pronouns or gerund phrases). A number of more common transitionals are classified below by word type and type of semantic relationship. Informal colloquial (col.) forms are listed separately – non-native writers of English tend to be unaware of style differences between such formal and informal terms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time and sequence</th>
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| **a)** coordinating conjunctions  
  and, or |
| **b)** subordinating conjunctions  
  as, as soon as, as long as, before, since, after, until, when, whenever, while  
  *[col.]*: by the time (that) |
| **c)** adverbial and phrasal transitions  
  after that/this, afterward, at last, at length, at that time, at the same time (as / that),  
  beforehand, concurrently, currently, earlier, eventually, finally, formerly, immediately, in  
  addition, in the future, in the past, last, later, meanwhile, moreover, next, now, presently,  
  previously, recently, shortly, simultaneously, soon, still, subsequently, subsequently, then,  
  thereafter, this instant, today, tomorrow, yet  
  *[col.]*: afterwards, and so forth, from now on, in the meantime, last but not least, later on, soon  
  afterwards |
| **d)** prepositions  
  before, since, after, until, during |

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| **a)** coordinating conjunctions  
  that, who, which, whose, why, what, whatever, whoever, how much/ many |
| **b)** subordinating conjunctions  
  as, by the time, as soon as, as long as, before, since, after, until, when, whenever, while |
| **c)** adverbial and phrasal transitions  
  also, as a matter of fact, besides, equally important, finally, first, fourth..., further, |
furthermore, in addition, incidentally, in the first place, last, last of all, likewise, moreover, next, second still, still/yet another, third, too, yet

{col.}: by the way, first of all

d) prepositions

plus, besides, in addition to

Repetition

c) adverbial and phrasal transitions

(the) aforementioned, above all, as a matter of fact, chiefly, especially, i.e., in essence, in other words, namely, particularly, primarily, singularly, still, with attention to

{col.}: as I said earlier, in other words, once again, on the whole, that is, that is to say, to put it differently, to repeat, to restate

Exception

a) coordinating conjunctions

other than

b) subordinating conjunctions

c-d) adverbial, phrasal, prepositional transitions

except for the fact that, aside from, barring, excluding, besides, except, excepting, except for, exclusive of, outside of, save, with the exception of

Example

a) coordinating conjunctions

as, such as, like

b) subordinating conjunctions

c) adverbial and phrasal transitions

chiefly, e.g., especially, for example, for instance, including, in particular, more specifically, namely, specifically, such as, that is, thus, to demonstrate, to enumerate,

{col.}: an instance of this..., as an illustration, by way of an example, first of all, for one thing, this can be seen in, to illustrate

d) prepositions

as, like

Reason, purpose

a) coordinating conjunctions

and, for
b) subordinating conjunctions
because, since, so that, in order that, in order to, so as to

c) adverbial and phrasal transitions
all things considered, because of this, for this purpose, for this reason
to this end, this/that being the case, to do so, to do this, to this end, with this in mind, with
this object(ive), with this purpose in mind,

d) prepositions
because of, due to, in light of (this), given (X)

Result, cause and effect

a) coordinating conjunctions
so, and, thus

b) subordinating conjunctions
so that, such (a) [noun] that, if...then, therefore, it follows that, because, since

c) adverbial and phrasal transitions
accordingly, apparently, as a consequence, as a result, consequently, due to this, for this
reason, hence, it is apparent (that), thereby, therefore, thereupon, thus,

d) prepositions
as a consequence of, in light of (this)

Manner, similarity

a) coordinating conjunctions
as

b) subordinating conjunctions
as, as if, as though, how, however [= in whichever way that X]

c) adverbial and phrasal transitions
likewise, so, accordingly, comparatively, coupled with, correspondingly, identically, likewise,
similar, similarly, together with

d) prepositions
based on, depending on, according to

Condition

a) coordinating conjunctions
in case
b) subordinating conjunctions
   if, as long as, unless [=except if], in case (that), provided that, supposing (that), whether, 
   [col.]: whether or not

c) adverbial and phrasal transitions
   this/that being the case, it may be (the case)

d) prepositions
   in (the) case of

Concession

a) coordinating conjunctions
   but, yet

b) subordinating conjunctions
   it may be (the case) that, although, though, however, granted that

c) adverbial and phrasal transitions
   of course, naturally, it may be the case that, granted, it is true that, certainly, and yet, even so, 
   even though, nevertheless, otherwise, though, notwithstanding

Contrast

a) coordinating conjunctions
   but, yet, or, nor

b) subordinating conjunctions
   although, though, even though, while, in spite of the fact that, despite the fact that, however

c) adverbial and phrasal transitions
   however, one the one hand...on the other hand, nevertheless, on the contrary, to the contrary, 
   however, still, in contrast, conversely, at the same time, regardless, nevertheless, in contrast, 
   after all, and yet, conversely, instead, rather, still, otherwise, though this may be (so / the 
   case), alternatively, 
   [col.]: for all that, at the same time

d) prepositions
   as opposed to, in contrast to, instead of, in spite of, despite, rather than, regardless (of), in 
   opposition to

Comparison

a) coordinating conjunctions
   just as, just as...so to, or
b) subordinating conjunctions

c) adverbial and phrasal transitions

  likewise, similarly, also, again, in the same way/ manner, in comparison, relatively speaking, in like manner, in like fashion

[COL.]: by the same token, on the same note

Summary, conclusion

c) adverbial and phrasal transitions

  above all, all things considered, as demonstrated/ shown, as a result, as has been demonstrated/ shown, as the data/ facts show, finally, in brief, in conclusion, in summary, in the final analysis, therefore, thus, to conclude, to sum, to summarize,

[COL.]: as I have demonstrated/ shown, in any event, in brief, in short, in the long run, last of all, on the whole, on the whole, to sum up, without a doubt, with this in mind,

Place, direction

c-d) adverbial, phrasal, prepositional transitions

  next to, above, behind, beyond, near, across from, to the right/ left, here, there, in between, opposite (to), nearby, at this/that point, surrounding, adjacent to, in the background / foreground, in the forefront, in the distance