

Key transitional words & phrases

The words and phrases listed below can be used as 'signposts' within your writing to provide cues to your reader about: the direction your argument is heading, what you think is important, counter-arguments, summary/ concluding statements, etc.

Cues that lead the reader forward

To show addition: To show time:

Again, Moreover, At length, Later
Immediately thereafter, Previously,
And then, Too, Soon, Formerly,
Besides, Next, After a few hours, First, second, etc
Further, Lastly, Finally, and then
Furthermore, What's more, Then

Cues that make the reader stop and compare

But, Notwithstanding, Although
Yet, On the other hand, Although this is true,
And yet, On the contrary, While this is true,
However, After all, Conversely,
Still, For all that, Simultaneously,
Nevertheless, In contrast, Meanwhile
Nonetheless, At the same time, In the meantime,

Cues that develop and summarise

To give examples: To emphasize: To repeat:

For instance, Obviously, In brief,
For example, In fact, In short,
To demonstrate, As a matter of fact, As I have said,
To illustrate, Indeed, As I have noted,
As an illustration, In any case, In other words,
In any event, That is,

To introduce conclusions: To summarize:

Hence, In brief,
Therefore, On the whole,
Accordingly, Summing up,
Consequently, To conclude,
Thus, In conclusion, As a result,

The University of Manchester's Academic Phrasebank contains many more words and phrases:
www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/