



WRITER'S STUDIO RESOURCES: TRANSITIONS



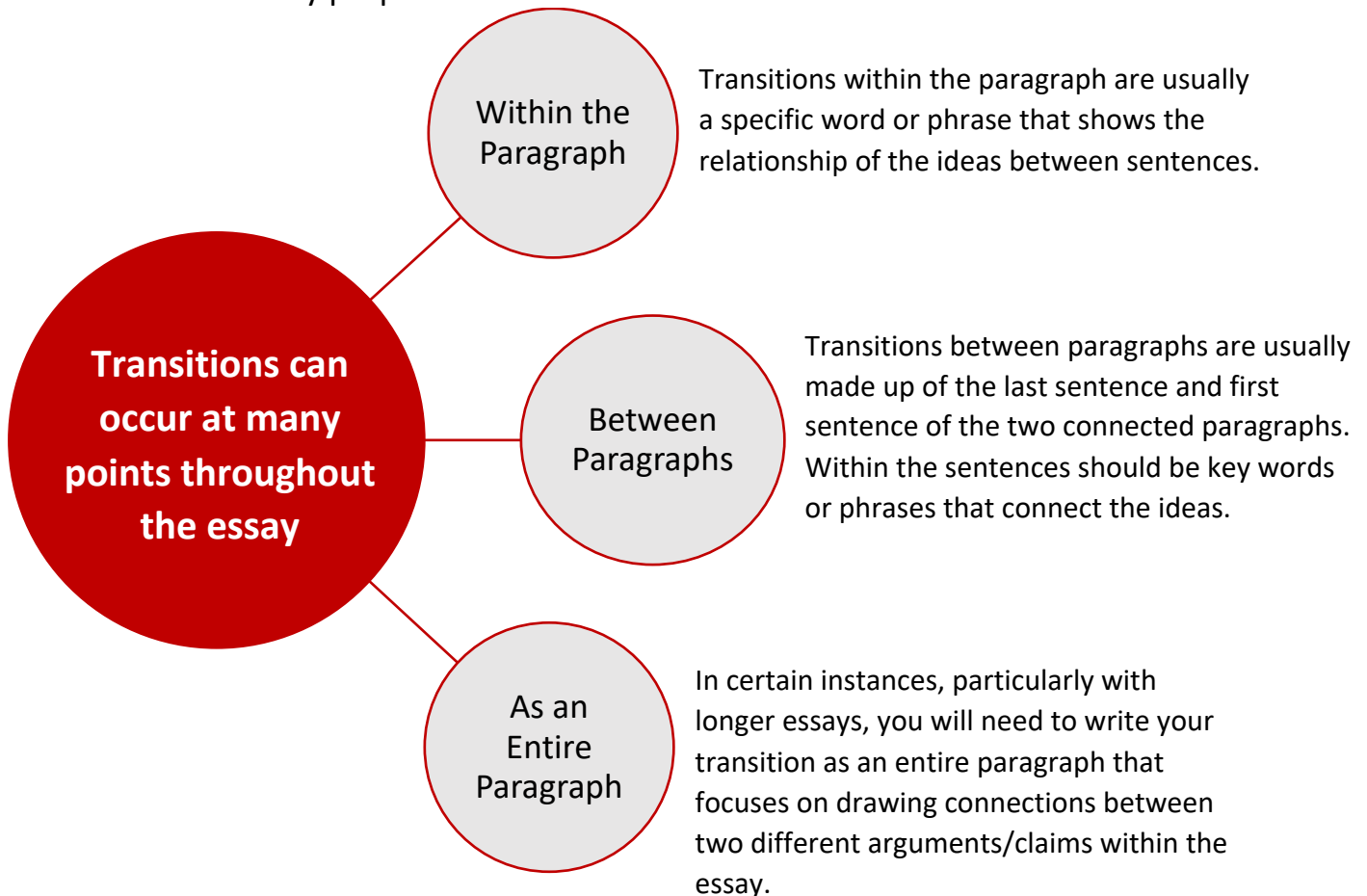
What is a transition?

Transitions are the words, phrases, and sentences you use to move from one idea to the next. They hold your essay together and help the reader understand your thought process and the flow of your argument.

Why do I need transitions?

Transitions make your essay easier to read by connecting ideas to one another throughout the essay. They act as logical bridges between your ideas, sentences, paragraphs, and essay sections.

Transitions serve many purposes:





Transition Examples and Categories

There are multiple types of transitional categories, and each category leads readers to make certain connections or assumptions. Here is a list of common transitional phrases and their purpose that can help guide readers in a given way.

Purpose	Transitional Expressions
to add	also, and, and then, as well, besides, beyond that, first (second, third, last, and so on), for one thing, furthermore, in addition, moreover, next, what is more
to compare	also, as well, both (neither), in the same way, likewise, similarly, at the same time
to contrast	although, be that as it may, but, even though, however, in contrast, nevertheless, on the contrary, on the other hand, yet, whereas
to concede (a point)	certainly, granted that, of course, no doubt, to be sure
to emphasize	above all, especially, in fact, in particular, indeed, most important, surely
to illustrate	as a case in point, as an illustration, for example, for instance, in particular, one such, yet another
to place	above, beside, below, beyond, further, here, inside, nearby, next to, on the far side, outside, to the east (south, and so on)
to qualify	perhaps
to give a reason	as, because, for, since
to show a result	and so, because of this, as a consequence, as a result, consequently, for this reason, hence, so, therefore, thus
to summarize	all in all, finally, in brief, in other words, lastly, on the whole, to sum up
To place in time	after a while, afterward, at last, at present, currently, during, eventually, finally, first (second, and so on), gradually, immediately, in the future, later, meanwhile, now, recently, soon, suddenly

Let's take a look at an example:

The language we use—in this instance, the stories we choose to tell—help us to define ourselves in certain social groups. The stories we tell our friends may not be the same stories we share with our families, and even more so for professionals or those we may see as in a higher social position than ourselves. *However*, this sense of identity isn't formed just through face-to-face communication, as I explore *later* through social media and audio storytelling. What we share now is vastly different from what perhaps our grandparents would share because we are accustomed to sharing things on a screen. It is immediate and recorded and easy to look up *later* if we don't remember fine details, *so* nothing is ever lost. In the *next* section, I explore how these changing mediums of storytelling effects how we view the importance of storytelling as a part of our own culture *as well as* a part of societal culture.

Notice by using *however*, it draws a contrast between the two paragraphs.

The author uses *later* and *next* to make the audience aware when to expect to contrast these ideas when they read.

By using *as well as*, it also shows similarity to the previous idea.

Here, the word *so* shows the cause and effect relationship of the ideas in this sentence.