



Transitions: Map and Compass

Important notice:



At the end of this presentation there is a link to a Microsoft Forms quiz. You must score an 80% or higher to pass the quiz.

Please take your time viewing and studying this material before you proceed with the quiz.

Objectives



The students will:

- Learn what transitional phrases are
- Distinguish the functions of transitional phrases
- Improve their academic writing skills

What is a Transitional Phrase?



A phrase that shows the relationship between other phrases, sentences, paragraphs, etc. By making the relationship between ideas in a text evident, transitional phrases also increase readability and comprehension of your written compositions.

Example:

- What are you going to do after you eat?
- I am going to study for an hour. I am going to take a shower. I will read until I fall asleep.

What is a Transitional Phrase?



A phrase that shows the relationship between other phrases, sentences, paragraphs, etc. By making the relationship between ideas in a text evident, transitional phrases also increase readability and comprehension of your written compositions.

Example:

- What are you going to do after you eat?
- **First**, I am going to study for an hour. **Afterwards**, I am going to take a shower. **Lastly**, I will read until I fall asleep.

The former transitional phrases help us show time related sequence between each sentence.

In the following slides, you will find a variety of transitional phrases.

Each slide will concentrate on 4 transitional phrases that share the same function.

In parentheses to the right of every transitional phrase, you will find the equivalent Spanish translation. Some transitional phrases will have more than one possible translation.

Every transitional phrase will provide an example sentence that will help you see the transitional phrase in context. Some transitional phrases will provide two example sentences.

Example of the format established in the previous slide



- **Function: Additional description of the function**
 1. **Transitional Phrase** (Spanish translation)
 - Example sentence that includes the transitional phrase previously mentioned.
 2. **Transitional Phrase** (Spanish translation)
 - Example sentence that includes the transitional phrase previously mentioned.
 3. **Transitional Phrase** (Spanish translation)
 - Example sentence that includes the transitional phrase previously mentioned.
 4. **Transitional Phrase** (Spanish translation)
 - Example sentence that includes the transitional phrase previously mentioned.

Transitional Phrase: To Add



▪ **Function: To Add Supplementary Information.**

1. **Moreover** (Además)

- Your oral presentation was well done. Moreover, it did not last more than 15 minutes.

2. **Furthermore** (Más)

- Hardcover books look better than their equivalent paperback editions. Furthermore, they are more durable.

3. **Besides** (Además de)

- Besides her high GPA average, she was also the best candidate for the job.

4. **Coupled with** (Junto con)

- Adequate photographic equipment, coupled with knowledge of composition and color theory, yields excellent images.

Transitional Phrase: To Show Similarity



- **Function: Highlight similarities between two ideas/subjects.**
 1. **Likewise** (Asimismo) (De manera similar)
 - Public transportation in Puerto Rico is nearly nonexistent. Likewise, cycling lanes barely exist.
 2. **In a similar fashion** (De manera similar)
 - This year, the Utuado campus enrolled 2856 students. In a similar fashion, the Ponce campus enrolled 2974 students.
 3. **By comparison** (En comparación)
 - Written tests are mostly formal. Oral presentation evaluations, by comparison, can be formal or informal.
 4. **By the same token** (del mismo modo, por la misma razón)
 - You want to store things, but by the same token, you want to be able to find them again.
 - I don't think that prices will go up but, by the same token, I don't see them going down either.

Transitional Phrase: To Show Contrast



▪ **Function: Transition Between Two Opposing Ideas**

1. **Nonetheless** (No obstante)

- There are serious political problems in Puerto Rico. **Nonetheless,** the island has great weather.

2. **Conversely** (Por lo contrario)

- Poor health is accepted as an attribute of normal ageing. **Conversely,** youth is depicted as a time of vitality and good health.

4. **Yet** (Sin embargo)

- The weather was cold, **yet** bright and sunny.

5. **Rather** (But rather) (Más bien / sino más bien)

- The idea wasn't to make scrambled eggs. **Rather,** it was to make an omelette.
- The idea wasn't to make scrambled eggs. **But rather,** to make an omelette.

Transitional Phrase: To Generalize



▪ **Function: To State a Custom/Make a Generalization**

1. **Ordinarily** (Generalmente)

- Ordinarily, we send a reminder about a month before payment is required.

2. **As a rule** (Como regla general)

- As a rule, we do not allow children in the bar.

3. **For the most part** (En su mayoría)

- Professors employed by contract, for the most part, are significantly underpaid.

4. **Generally speaking** (Por lo general)

- Generally speaking, people tend to prefer vanilla flavored ice cream over pistachio flavored ice cream.

Transitional Phrase: To Illustrate

1. **For instance** (Por ejemplo)

- In the electronics industry, for instance, 500 jobs have been lost.

2. **In this/that case** (En tal caso / En este caso)

- In this case, empowerment is defined as a change in the relations of power.

3. **For example** (Por ejemplo)

- Some languages don't use the Roman alphabetical system. For example, Mandarin and Cantonese use Chinese characters.

4. **For one thing** (Por un lado)

- A lot of people don't take the time to read contracts. For one thing, they're often in very tiny print.

Transitional Phrase: To Show Cause and Effect



1. **Hence** (Por tanto)

- The man smoked cigarettes all his life. Hence, his pulmonary illness came as no surprise to anyone.

2. **Therefore** (Por consiguiente)

- He was caught trafficking exotic animals. Therefore, he was sentenced to 5 years in state prison.

3. **Consequently** (Por consiguiente)

- Due to complaints, The Department of Motor Vehicles increased the number of its staff and consequently, the service improved.

4. **Otherwise** (De lo contrario)

- I hope the weather improves. Otherwise, we'll have to cancel the picnic.

Transitional Phrase: To Emphasize



1. **Above all** (Sobre todo)

- The Federal Government has pledged millions of dollars in aid to the rebuilding of the southern region of the island, but, above all, it has vowed to foster the diversification of the local economy.

2. **Chiefly** (Principalmente)

- There are branches of the shop all over the country, but chiefly in the south.
- This service is chiefly aimed at individual visitors or small groups.

3. **Particularly** (Particularmente)

- Regional policy has become a hot political issue, particularly in the last decade.

4. **With attention to** (Con atención a)

- Students are asked to compose their e-mails carefully with attention to tone and style.

Transitional Phrase: To Restate



1. **Namely** (Específicamente)

- I learned an important lesson when I lost my job, namely that nothing is a hundred percent guaranteed.

2. **To put differently** (Para decirlo de otra manera)

- The syntactic structure of your sentences are ungrammatical. To put differently, they are incorrect.

3. **In other words** (En otras palabras)

- He has another appointment on Thursday. In other words, I don't think he'll be attending your gathering.

4. **That is to say** (Es decir)

- One of the best things about works of music is that they are repeatable. That is to say, one can listen to the same work over and over without becoming tired.

Transitional Phrase: To Show Sequence



1. Afterwards (Luego)

- We had tea. Afterwards, we sat in the garden for a while.

2. Simultaneously (Simultáneamente)

- She was cooking a meal while simultaneously holding a business meeting via her mobile phone.

3. While (Mientras)

- According to the recipe, it is important to boil a pot of water while peeling the potatoes so that they can be cooked as quickly as possible before adding them to the dish.

4. First(ly), second(ly), lastly, etc. (Primeramente, segundamente, por último)

- I have three reasons for wanting to visit Rome. Firstly, I would love to see the Colosseum. Secondly, I'm sure the pope is dying to meet me. Lastly, they have great pizza.

Transitional Phrase: To Summarize/Conclude



1. **Given these points** (dados estos puntos)
 - **Given all these points**, you should have in idea as to how transitional phrases can be useful in academic writing.
2. **All things considered** (considerando todo)
 - **All things considered**, you should make a private retirement savings account.
3. **As previously stated** (como se ha señalado previamente)
 - **As previously stated**, conditions are often attached to these arrangements.
4. **Overall** (en general)
 - **Overall**, these risks point to the need for medium-term fiscal consolidation and further efforts in structural reforms.

After completing the module, click on the following link to take the quiz and send the report to your professor:

<https://forms.office.com/r/4neGRFzR2D>

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