Transitions: sequence, comparison, emphasis &. . .

Beyond contrast, cause, and addition, transitions also mark SEQUENCE/TIME (first. . .



Lesson `rw.transitions.T2`

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The idea

Beyond contrast, cause, and addition, transitions also mark SEQUENCE/TIME (first, then, next, finally, meanwhile), COMPARISON/SIMILARITY (similarly, likewise), EMPHASIS (indeed, in fact), and CONCLUSION/SUMMARY (in conclusion, in short, overall). Choose by the actual relationship: do not announce a summary in the middle of an argument, signal a sequence where none exists, or claim similarity between ideas that actually. . .

Is the relationship one of order/time, similarity, emphasis, or summary/conclusion?

Match the transition to the relationship: sequence words for ordered steps or simultaneous events, similarity words for parallel ideas, emphasis words for intensification, summary words only when drawing a conclusion from prior material.

Watch every step

The recipe requires several steps. ___, combine the dry ingredients in a large bowl.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- **A.** First
- **B.** Finally ✗ *sequence/time error*
- **C.** Similarly ✗ *comparison/similarity error*
- **D.** In conclusion ✗ *conclusion/emphasis misuse*

Why **A** — "First." Select the transition that fits the named relationship.

Now a harder one

The committee reviewed the budget for hours. ___, the volunteers prepared the venue next door.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- **A.** Meanwhile
- **B.** Therefore ✗ *conclusion/emphasis misuse*
- **C.** Finally ✗ *sequence/time error*
- **D.** In conclusion ✗ *conclusion/emphasis misuse*

Why A — "Meanwhile." Select the transition that fits the named relationship.

The method, in one line

Transitions: sequence, comparison, emphasis & conclusion

Match the transition to the relationship: sequence words for ordered steps or simultaneous events, similarity words for parallel ideas, emphasis words for intensification, summary words only when drawing a conclusion from prior material.

Is a sequence word used only for genuine order? Is 'similarly' used only for parallel ideas? Is a summary word used only at a real conclusion?

Watch out: two traps to dodge

⚠ sequence/time error

Uses a sequence or time transition where the ideas are not ordered in that way, such as 'finally' for a first step or a sequence word where none applies.

⚠ comparison/similarity error

Uses 'similarly' or 'likewise' for ideas that contrast or are not parallel, or signals contrast where ideas are actually parallel.

Name the trap before you pick — most wrong answers are one of these two.

Try it, then watch the walk-through

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