TRANSITIONS

Coherence in a paragraph requires transitions which can be a word or a phrase. Transitions show the relationship between sentences or ideas within sentences. They are placed at or near the beginning of a sentence to indicate their relation to the preceding sentence. The coordinating conjunctions for, and, nor, but, or, yet, and so are often used this way. The following is a list of additional common transitional words and phrases.

Transitions indicating **TIME** or **SEQUENCE** Relations
first, second, third, then, next, after that, also, last, at the same time, meanwhile, providing, subsequently, previously, after a short time, afterward(s), as long as, as soon as, at last, at length, at that time, before, earlier, of late, in the meantime, lately, later, presently, shortly, soon, thereafter, until, frequently, occasionally.

Uses
You are indicating a time relationship.

Transitions indicating **ADDITION**
again, also, then, besides, equally important, in fact, similarly, first, second, third, furthermore, in addition (to), additionally, last, likewise, moreover, next, too, indeed.

Uses
You are adding something.
"And" can be a good sentence opener when used with care.

Transitions indicating **CAUSE** and **EFFECT**
accordingly, as a result, consequently, hence, otherwise, then, therefore, thus, since, because, in other words, so.

Uses
You are showing the relationship between two ideas or conditions.

Transitions indicating **COMPARISON**
also, like, too, as well as, in a like manner, both and, neither nor, likewise, similarly.

Uses
You are showing similarities.

Transitions indicating **CONTRAST**
although, though, and, yet, at the same time, but, for all that, however, in contrast (to), in spite of, nevertheless, nonetheless, notwithstanding, on the contrary, on the other hand, still, yet even though, in opposition to, conversely, whereas, nor, or, but, yet.

Uses
You are reversing or deflecting the line of thought, usually back to your own side.

Do not use while for whereas: while means "during the time that," and is thus ambiguous unless restricted to time.
Transitions supporting **A POINT**
because, since, for

**Conceding A POINT to the opposition**
of course, no doubt, doubtless, to be sure, granted (that),
certainly.

Transitions indicating **SPECIAL FEATURES** or **EXAMPLES**
for example, for instance, incidentally, indeed, in fact, in other
words, in particular, specifically, that is, to illustrate, frequently,
occasionally, especially, in general, usually, as an illustration.

Transitions indicating **SUMMARY** (conclusion)
so, and so, finally, last, hence, thus, on the whole, all in all,
therefore, in summary, in brief, in conclusion, in short, on the
whole, to conclude, to sum up, to summarize, in other words,
consequently.

**USES**
You are connecting a reason to
an assertion.

**USES**
You are conceding a point to
the opposition, or recognizing
a point just off your main line.

**USES**
Again you are adding, illustrating, or expanding your point.

**USES**
You are adding up conse-
quences, summarizing minor
points to emphasize a major
point.