

Lesson 5. Transitions

Transitions are words that show the relationships among the parts of a paragraph. Good transitions easily lead the reader from the topic sentence to a reason or piece of evidence, from a supporting detail to an explanation, then through the explanation, and from the explanation to the concluding sentence. A transition can also be a repetition of a key word within a paragraph if it helps to lead the reader through the parts of the paragraph.

Although you may repeat important key words in your writing, you should still strive to use synonyms for these words. You should not repeat non-key words.

Checking for the best transitions in your paragraph is one task you should perform while proofreading.

Using Transitions

Exercise 5 – a

*Directions: The following paragraphs are missing transitions. After carefully reading each paragraph, fill in the blanks with appropriate transitions from the **Word Bank** supplied. Remember that a transition can be a repetition of a key word.*

Writing Prompt 1

What is your opinion on the contributions Joe DiMaggio made to the sport of baseball? Answer this question in a paragraph using specific reasons and pieces of evidence to support your position.

*This incomplete paragraph was written in response to the above prompt. Fill in the transition words from the **Word Bank** to complete the paragraph.*

Joe DiMaggio, one of America's most revered sports legends, was an outstanding baseball player, a superb athlete, and a role model.

(A) _____ failing to show his prowess to hit, play outfield, or steal third base, he (B) _____ captured records as his team captured pennants. (C) _____ keeping his eye on the ball, he never allowed the crowds to distract him from playing his best. (D) _____,

WORD BANK

ironically
always
after
never
this man
additionally
of course