Transition Words
Words or phrases that help your writing flow more smoothly

Most commonly used transition words of
Phrases include:
• to being
• also
• in addition
• furthermore
• finally

To show order or sequence:
• to begin
• to start with
• in the first place
• in the second place
• next
• then
• also
• finally
• to conclude
• first
• second
• third
• fourth

To reinforce something:
• also
• furthermore
• moreover
• in addition
• above all

To add information:
• in addition
• additionally
• also
• another
• along with

To give an example:
• for example
• for instance
• in other words

To emphasize a point:
• again
• truly
• to repeat
• to emphasize
• in fact

To clarify:
• for instance
• in other words
• for this reason

To compare two things:
• similarly
• likewise
• also
• in the same way

To contrast two things:
• however
• but
• still
• although
• nevertheless
• on the other hand
• on the contrary
• even though
• in contrast
• by comparison
• instead
• alternatively
• rather than

To show a result:
• consequently
• hence
• therefore
• thus
• as a result

To summarize or conclude:
• finally
• in conclusion
Before you begin your journal, **REMEMBER:**

- Use words from the writing prompt or question to write your topic sentence

- Write at least 3 detail sentences

- Use transition words to move from one detail sentence to another

- Make sure you have a comma after each transition word

- Write a concluding sentence by rephrasing your topic sentence, making an “I think” or an “I feel” statement

- Count your sentences to make sure you have at least 5

- Look over your writing to make sure you used capital letters and punctuation

- Read your journal quietly to yourself to listen for mistakes
Journaling Tips

How to write an excellent paragraph:
- All paragraphs must be indented
- All paragraphs should have at least 5 sentences
- All paragraphs should have a topic sentence, at least 3 detail sentences and a concluding sentence

How to write a concluding sentence (3 options):
1. Repeat the topic sentence in a different way
2. Tell your reader how you feel about the topic
3. Tell your reader what you think about the topic

Helpful Definitions

Topic Sentence – tells what the paragraph will be about. Use words from the writing prompt or question to write your topic sentence.

Detail Sentences – the sentences that support your topic sentence. Remember to use transition words to move from one detail to another.

Concluding Sentence – this sentence ends the paragraph
Examples

**Writing Prompt:** What would your ideal vacation be? Explain your answer.

**Begin your paragraph with a topic sentence stating your belief. Remember to use the words from the question to start your answer.**

*Example:*  
To me, the ideal vacation would be spent at the beach.

**Next provide at least 3 detail sentences to support your opinion. Remember to use transition words to help your paragraph move more smoothly.**

*Example:*  
First of all, I enjoy the sun, surf, and sand. Secondly summer is my favorite time of the year. Lastly, I love to swim in the ocean.

**Finally, end your paragraph with a concluding sentence that restates your belief.**

*Example:*  
In conclusion, these are just a few reasons why a beach vacation would be ideal for me.