

# Signal Words



at The Academic Resource Center

508-588-9100 x1801

writingcenter@massasoit.mass.edu

Signal words are specific words that you can use to transition between the different ideas in your paper clearly and organically.

### Words that indicate **addition**

moreover	and then	in addition	together with
further	likewise	equally important	along with
furthermore	also	in conjunction with	plus
besides	too	over and above	one/another
and	again	many (reasons, types)	as well as
another	next	first, second, third	

### Words that indicate **similarities**

similarly	in like manner	just as	identically
likewise	similar to	in the same way	alike
like(ness)	comparable		

### Words that indicate **differences**

but	nevertheless	in contrast	though
yet	on the contrary	otherwise	whereas
however	although	still	notwithstanding
after all	despite	on the other hand	less/more
different from	opposite	here/there	er (taller, shorter)
differ	even though	instead	unlike

### Words that indicate **place**

here	adjacent	next to	there
above	beyond	near	far
below	under	nearby	by
to	around	close	ahead

## Signal Words (continued):

### Words that indicate **cause, effect, and explanation**

---

therefore	accordingly	if, then	for
for this reason	thus	consequently	since
so	hence	because	on account of
cause	lead to	effect	reason

### Words that indicate **summary, repetition, and emphasis**

---

to sum up	in short	as has been noted	in brief
as I have said	in other words	on the whole	in fact
that is	indeed	finally	in summary
to be sure	in any event	for these reasons	thus
most important	above all	est (biggest)	

### Words that introduce **examples**

---

for example	to illustrate	such as	once
for instance	specifically	in other words	that is
including			

### Words that indicate **time**

---

first	second	third	next
last	since	today	formerly
previously	at length	at last	soon
meanwhile	afterward	often	now
after	finally	until	during
following	when	while	then

### Words that help **define**

---

is	is called	are known as	means
that is	of	are	refers to