

Advanced Reading : Second Stage

Chapter Six : Recognizing Sentence Transitions

✓ What is meant by "Sentence transitions" ?

- They are words and phrases that build bridges between sentences to help readers follow the writer's ideas.
- Also called "Transition sentences" which are like the bridge between two sentences or paragraphs. They help one idea transition to another, showing the reader what the link is between two parts of a text and making it more fluid and easy to read.
- A transition sentence can appear either within a single paragraph or between two separate paragraphs. The transition sentences often introduce examples and other ideas when used within a paragraph. A transition sentence enables the reader to understand the link between the sentences on either side of the transition. In these cases, the transition can be one single transition word, such as *however*, *therefore*, or other linking words.
- Full sentences are more likely to be used as transitions **between paragraphs**. The aim is to show how the main ideas of the two paragraphs relate to each other. The transition sentence appears either at the end of one paragraph or at the start of the next paragraph. Either way, it introduces the next paragraph by explicitly showing the relationship between the thoughts and ideas in the former and latter paragraphs.

✓ What are the three ways to make a sentence transition?

- (1) Repeat a word (or a word with almost the same meaning) from the previous sentence:

For example:

You have just read an example of good *listening*. *Listening* is probably the most essential component of being a successful supervisor.

(2) Use a pronoun to refer to a word or phrase in the previous sentence:

For example:

Good listeners suspend judgment and are empathetic to the other person's feelings. *They* can see things from the other person's point of view.

(3) Use a connecting word or phrase, such as *however, on the other hand, for example, as a result, needless to say, in addition*, or *therefore*:

For example:

Effective listening is a learned skill; it doesn't happen automatically for most people. *In addition*, there are few rewards for listening, but there are punishments for not listening.

❖ How to write a transition sentence?

The inclusion of **transition words** turns an ordinary sentence into a transition sentence. Transition words fit in different categories, depending on their purpose.

- 1) Transition words to show similarity: *also, too, just as, likewise, similarly.*
- 2) Transition words to show contrast: *however, but, yet, nevertheless, despite, in contrast.*
- 3) Transition words to show sequence: *first, second, third, then, next, finally.*
- 4) Transition words to show time: *before, after, earlier, later, currently, during, meanwhile.*
- 5) Transition words to introduce examples: *for example, namely, specifically, such as.*

