

Transition Words for Body Paragraphs in Argumentative Essays

An argumentative essay typically contains 3 to 5 different paragraphs. Each paragraph focuses on a different argument that is directly linked to the main idea of the essay. Further, the next paragraph in an essay continues the main idea or provides substitute arguments. As a result, every paragraph is connected to the one before and the one after it. If the writer simply jumps onto the next argument, it can impact the flow of the essay and make it look illogical, and might confuse the reader.

Therefore, the use of transition words in the body paragraph is a must to make these shifts smooth and rational. It allows the author to inform the reader that one argument has ended here and now he/she is moving to the next point. With the use of transition words, one can maintain the flow, logic, and link the ideas between the paragraphs.

Transition Words for the First Body Paragraph

The first paragraph always has the most important role in an argumentative essay. It introduces the reader to the first argument of the essay. The reader must have an idea of when you started the argument. The purpose of the transition word in the first paragraph is to establish a structure and let the reader know what you will discuss. It will assist the reader in following the essay. In the table below are some transition words to use in the first body paragraph.

To begin with	To start with	Firstly	To start off
Basically	For one thing	First of all	Initially
To start	Let's start by	In the first place	In the beginning
First and foremost	The first point is	It all started with	As an introduction
To introduce the topic	Starting with	To set the stage	At the outset
In the first instance	As a starting point	As we start	To lay the foundation
First	The first thing is	To open the discussion	Let's first consider

Transition Words for the Second Body Paragraph

In the second paragraph of an argumentative essay, the writer introduces the second argument of the essay. The second point can be a continuation or added information that strengthens the previous argument of the essay, or it can be a new argument that may not have any major connection to the first point but is linked to the main idea of the argument. With the use of transition words, the writer can effectively place the ideas and generate a connection with the previous idea without hampering the structure and flow of the essay. Here are transition words to use in the second body paragraph.

Second	Secondly	Moreover	Furthermore
Next	In addition	Additionally	In a similar vein
Similarly	Likewise	Equally important	As you can see
As well as	In the same way	Also	Plus
Coupled with	Beyond that	Another point is	Along with

Transition word for the Third Body Paragraph

The third paragraph will further introduce the next point of the essay, which will further support the main idea or argument. With the use of transition words, one can develop and maintain the logical progression and provide a series of directions to the reader. The reader will remain informed of how the last point is connected to the present one. The table below carries words to use in the third body paragraph

Third	Thirdly	Next	Additionally
In addition to that	In addition	Moreover	Furthermore
again	Too	What's more	Further
To further elaborate	On the top of that	Besides	Also

Transition Words for the last body paragraph

As you reach the last paragraph, make sure the reader also knows that this is the final point or argument of the essay. To ensure this, you can use several transition words. They lead the reader through your essay so they may understand how your thoughts grow in a comprehensible and straightforward way. The table below incorporates some transition words to use in the last paragraph.

Finally	Lastly	Ending with	Ultimately
To summarize	Next	Therefore	As a result

Transition Words for Counterclaims and Rebuttals

Counterclaims and rebuttals can be considered crucial to the development of a balanced argument in the argumentative essay. The presence of a counterclaim acknowledges the opposing views and demonstrates the intricacy of a topic, and broadens the argument. Rebuttal, on the contrary, may be employed to refute these counter-arguments because it is able to provide certain evidence and put the original claim into perspective, appealing to facts and logic.

This cannot be done without transition words, which may help the reader trace the logic of the point and make everything understandable and logical.

Counterclaims: The table shows the words to use to introduce counterclaims.

On the contrary	In other words	However	Some may argue
On the other side	On the flip side	Others may say	Unlike
Nevertheless	Conversely	In fact	Although
While	Even though	It is true that	Despite the fact that
Admittedly	But	In contrast	In spite of

Rebuttals: The table shows the words to use to introduce rebuttals.

Still	Rather	whereas	In contrast
Yet	In fact	Conversely	On the other hand
but	Since	While	After that
however	therefore	Besides	Even though
While it's true	Despite	Therefore	accordingly

Transition Words for the Body Paragraph

Body paragraphs cannot do without the use of transition words because they serve to allow the reader to understand how the writer is thinking. These words are used to present evidence, explain examples, and supplement them, which builds a logical sequence of thoughts. Moreover, they are also able to prove the contrasts between ideas, making the argumentation more solid. The implementation of proper transition words can go a long way to make the work of the writer more readable since the ideas flow logically to the next instead of flowing in an anticlimactic manner.

Here are the transitions based on the purpose:

To start a new point	Firstly, Starting with, To set the stage, To open the discussion, It all starts with, In the beginning, To begin with, As we start, Let's start by, To introduce the topic, Before anything else, First and foremost, As an introduction, In the first instance, To start with, Initially, At the outset, The first point is
Adding Information	Additionally, Moreover, Furthermore, Also, In addition, Besides, Another point is, Coupled with, Plus, Not to mention, What's more, On top of that, Equally important, As well, Along with, Beyond that, Likewise, Similarly, To further elaborate,
Providing Examples	For example, As an example, For instance, To illustrate, As shown by, Specifically, To give you an idea, Consider the following, As illustrated by, An illustration of this is, Take the case of, In particular, In this case, Such as, To clarify, To demonstrate, To put it in perspective, One example is
Cause and Effect	As a result, Thus, With this in mind, Consequently, As a consequence, Hence, Due to, Therefore, This leads to, For this reason, Accordingly, Resulting in, In response to, Because of this, Because, Given that, So, Owing to
Evidence	As evidenced by, As evidence, Data suggests, As demonstrated by, In fact, Based on, As confirmed by, Studies reveal, To back this up, According to, As indicated by, Research shows, As corroborated by, Studies reveal, In support of this
Clarification	To be clear, That is to say, In simpler terms, In essence, To put it another way, What this means is, To put it simply, Simply put, To rephrase, Stated differently, Put differently,

	For clarity, More specifically, In other words, To break it down, To put it clearly, In plain language
Emphasis	Critically, Without a doubt, Notably, Particularly, Especially, Most importantly, Significantly, Emphatically, Absolutely, It is worth noting, Above all, Undeniably, It should be emphasized, Importantly, To stress
Sequence	First, Second, Secondly, In the meantime, After that, Subsequently, At last, Next, Meanwhile, Simultaneously, Earlier, Following this, Later, Eventually, Lastly, Then
Similarity	Just as, In like manner, Equally, In a similar manner, In the same way, Much like, By the same token, Correspondingly, In parallel, Comparable to, In a similar fashion, Analogous to, In the same spirit, Along similar lines, In the same vein, In much the same way, As well as, Resembling
Argument	Indeed, Undoubtedly, It stands to reason that, Obviously, This proves, Clearly, Certainly, In light of this, It is evident that, There is no denying that, It is certain that, To emphasize, It is clear that, This suggests that, As a matter of fact, Unquestionably, This demonstrates

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