

# Transition Words

Use transitional words and phrases to help bring two ideas together and help stories read more smoothly. It helps the writing flow more smoothly from one idea to the next.

## Putting things in a time order

at first  
first, second, third  
first of all  
to begin with  
in the first place  
in the meantime  
meanwhile  
next  
then  
soon  
before  
after  
later  
while  
earlier  
afterward  
finally  
at last  
lastly

## Things that are similar (comparing) or different (contrasting)

in other words  
likewise  
similar  
for example  
for instance  
usually  
instead  
otherwise  
so then

## Directions

here  
there  
over there  
beyond  
nearly  
opposite  
under  
above  
to the left  
to the right  
in the distance

**You may not start sentences with AND or SO.** Points will be deducted from your writing assignments if you begin sentences with these two words. When you are a famous writer, you may use these words at the beginning of a sentence.