

## TRANSITION WORDS

Transition words are used to link sentences and ideas. If you use them correctly, your writing will be easier to understand and more mature. Look for transitions when you are reading the newspaper, a magazine, or a book. Notice how other writers have used these words, then try to use them yourself in your own writing.

Directions: For practice, use the transitions at the right in the sentences at the left. In each group, use a transition only once. Read each sentence carefully so that you can choose an appropriate transition. Capitalize when necessary.

1. I would like to see you tomorrow, **so** let's have lunch together. for example
  2. My sister loves to eat, **but** I don't care much about food. finally
  3. When you begin an exercise program, you must be careful not to overdo it. but  
My father, **for example**, hurt his back by exercising too hard without so  
warming up first. still
  4. She had looked everywhere for a job; **finally**, she was called for beyond  
an interview. to the left
- 

5. She had been studying for hours. **As a result/therefore**, she hoped to do similarly  
well on the test. third
  6. First, Mary went to the store. **Then**, she went to visit her mother. nevertheless
  7. I would like to read many books; **however/nevertheless**, I don't seem to have however  
enough time to read. as a result
  8. John ate and ate; **however/nevertheless**, he never gained weight. then
  9. Joe ate too fast. **as a result**, he had indigestion. for instance  
therefore
- 

10. He stayed up too late last night; **consequently**, he slept until noon. meanwhile
11. I want you to buy milk, eggs, and fruit juice; **furthermore**, furthermore  
I want you to be sure to get cereal and ice cream. first
12. I was concentrating on my homework. **Meanwhile**, third  
the soup boiled over. in fact
13. **First**, I will boil the water. Second, I will brew the tea, until then  
and **third**, I will serve it. consequently
14. **Finally**, I will serve the tea. in contrast
15. Jane studies all the time; **in contrast**, Billy never studies.

We use the present simple to talk about future events that are part of a time table.

5. **When I was young, I ..... cricket every day.**

was practising

**practiced**

**would practice**

To talk about past habits, we can use would + infinitive. The past simple is also possible here.

6. .... **it possible, I would visit London**

**Were**

Was

Should

Were it possible means the same as if it were possible.

7. .... **it prove to be true, I shall resign from the committee.**

Would

Could

**Should**

'Should it prove to be true' means the same as 'If it proves to be true'.

8. .... **many faults, he was a good man at heart.**

despite

**In spite of having**

Owing to

In spite of and despite mean the same. The expression 'despite having' is also possible here.

**9. Were you ..... to trust him?**

- enough foolish
- foolish enough**
- so foolish

As an adverb enough goes after the adjective it modifies, so foolish enough is the correct option. Infinitive structures are not used after so.

**10. The faster you run, ..... yourself.**

- you exhaust sooner
- sooner you exhaust
- the sooner you exhaust**

The same structure 'the + comparative + subject + verb' is used in both clauses.

**11. If you played games regularly, you ..... get so fat.**

- won't
- wouldn't**
- wouldn't have

In the second conditional, we use a simple past tense in the if-clause and would + infinitive in the main clause.

**12. She ..... cooking when the guests arrived.**

- has not finished
- had not finished**
- was not finished

The past perfect is used to talk about the earlier of two past actions.

PLAY AGAIN !