

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

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

-
- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 10. He stayed up too late last night; _____, he slept until noon. | meanwhile |
| 11. I want you to buy milk, eggs, and fruit juice; _____,
I want you to be sure to get cereal and ice cream. | furthermore
first |
| 12. I was concentrating on my homework. _____,
the soup boiled over. | third
in fact |
| 13. _____, I will boil the water. Second, I will brew the tea,
and _____, I will serve it. | until then
consequently |
| 14. _____, I will boil the water. Second, I will brew the tea,
and _____, I will serve it. | in contrast |
| 15. Jane studies all the time; _____, 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 !