Transitional Devices

Transitions can be words, phrases, or sentences that connect ideas in your paper. Transitions improve your writing. They demonstrate the relationship between sentences, help you write a unified paragraph, and allow you to introduce a new topic. Some frequently used transitions follow:

Purpose:

1. To add an idea

Examples--again, also, besides, next, likewise, furthermore, also, in addition,

1. To show time sequence

Examples--after, at last, then, sometimes, formerly, next, until

1. To conclude

 Examples--finally, in brief, therefore,

1. To compare

Examples--likewise, similarly, in the same way

1. To contrast

Examples--after all, yet, although, conversely, however, instead, unlike

1. To emphasize

Examples--certainly, clearly, in fact, for this reason, particularly

1. To offer an example

 Example--namely, specifically,

1. To indicate spatial relationships

Examples--above, next to, near, beyond, below, adjacent to, elsewhere

Other Methods of Making Transitions

1. Repeat the main idea from the previous paragraph at the beginning of a new paragraph. Example—While X is an important factor in the development of a child, Y cannot be ignored. X is the idea in previous paragraph. Y is the idea in the new paragraph.
2. Use a synonym for a word that was used previously. This should be used sparingly.

Howard, Rebecca Morse. *Writing Matters.* 2nd ed. New York: Mc Graw Hill, 2014. Print.