

Opinion/Argument Writing: Signal Words

TRANSITIONAL PHRASES

INTRODUCTORY PHRASES

In my opinion	There is no doubt that	I question whether
I believe	From my point of view	I (dis) agree with
It is my belief that	It seems to me that	I maintain that

CONCLUDING PHRASES

For the reasons above	In short	In brief
As you can see	To be sure	Undoubtedly
As I have noted	Without a doubt	In any case
In other words	Obviously	Summarizing
On the whole	Unquestionably	In any event

SUPPORTING OPINIONS

First	Equally important	Besides	Further
Furthermore	In the first place	Next	Again
Second	Likewise	Moreover	Similarly
Third			
Also			
Finally			
Last			

INTRODUCING DETAILS

For example	For instance	In support of this
In fact	As evidence	

CAUSE AND EFFECT

Since	Caused by	In effect
Because of	This results in	Brought about
Due to	Consequently	Made possible
For this reason	Accordingly	As might be expected
Therefore	As a result of	Give rise to
If...then	Leads to	Was responsible for

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

Similarly	Likewise	As well as
Compared to	In the same way	Have in common
In like manner	Contrasting	All are
On the other hand	On the contrary	The same as
Although	As opposed to	Conversely
Even though	Rather than	Whether of not
	Nevertheless	In spite of

COUNTERING

I realize you	Believe	But
I understand you	Feel	Yet
Even though you	Maintain	However
Although you	Want	I doubt
Some people	Favour	I question
It may be that you	Support	Let me explain
Your idea to ____	Argue	On the other hand
deserves some merit	State	Nevertheless

TRANSITIONS

When you want to start an example or illustration:

She loves fine clothes. For example, her prom dress cost nearly two hundred dollars.

Jim sometimes becomes bored easily. For instance, I remember something that happened last summer.

When you want to contrast one thing with another:

Mary is one of my best friends. However, she sometimes makes me angry by being late.

Jack is a good swimmer. Even so, he has never won a trophy,

I saw her once when I felt awful. Nevertheless, we had a wonderful time.

When you want to add another idea:

Tom is crazy about his motorcycle. Furthermore, he does all the maintenance on it himself.

Mr. Johnston is an excellent teacher. Moreover, he is very popular with his students.

Everybody likes Lou. In addition, he seems to like everyone he meets.

When you want to show that one thing causes another:

-Sam isn't very organized. Consequently, he sometimes doesn't seem to know what he is doing.

One time he forgot his wife's birthday. As a result, she was very angry.

Al jogs three miles a day. Therefore, he is in good shape. .

When you want to summarize or generalize:

That really bothered me. But on the whole, he is a pretty good guy.

He is sensitive, warm, and considerate. In short, I love him.