

Identify Transitional Words & Phrases

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When writing sentences or paragraphs, your ideas should connect smoothly and logically. One way to do this is to use transitional words and phrases. You can use them to clarify transitions or changes between thoughts, bring ideas and thoughts together, sequence events, show relationships in time, continue or explain an idea, indicate cause or purpose, indicate a change in thought, or indicate a conclusion. Here is a list of some types of transition words that you can use.

Express purpose or cause: *because, therefore, in order to, so*

Show or explain: *for example, for instance, in other words, such as*

Add or continue a thought: *in addition, too, also, as well as*

Contrast or change a thought: *on the other hand, but, however, nevertheless*

Sum up or conclude: *finally, in conclusion, in the end*

Express time: *to begin with, in the meantime, first, second, next*

1 Read the following text and underline the transitional words and phrases.

Hey, teacher!

To begin with, I'm having a terrible time here in Japan.... No, just kidding, I'm having a blast! (However, that doesn't mean I don't miss home like crazy.) In addition to finally meeting all my friends from the Green Teens blog in person, I am meeting a lot of guys that belong to other green organizations from other countries around the world.

For instance, I've met people from: Canada, Mexico, India, Australia, Spain, and many more! We look very different from each other; nevertheless, we all share the same passion for preserving the environment.

I am learning a lot of new stuff, too. Every day we have workshops with topics such as: "How to Compost like a Green Guru" and "How to Dress Lean, Mean, and Green." There's definitely a lot of information to learn.

One of the highlights of the summit, for example, was the keynote speaker, Haru Shiro, who is one of Japan's most respected rock singers! He's very concerned with climate change. You might think that an important artist such as him would have no time to waste with teenagers like us, but he totally rocks! First, he spoke at the conference for two hours. Then, he had lunch with us, answered all our questions one-on-one, and sang some of his songs in order to show us how he uses art to deliver an environmental message. They gave out translations so we could all understand.

In conclusion, I know I will remember this summit forever!

Drag here the transitional words and phrases. _____

2 Read the text again. Answer the following questions by circling "Yes," "No," or "I cannot say."

1. Does the writer miss home in spite of enjoying the summit?
Yes No I cannot say.
2. Is the writer only meeting people from the Green Teens blog?
Yes No I cannot say.
3. Was the conference with the rock singer the best part of the trip?
Yes No I cannot say.
4. Are people from Germany and the USA participating in the event?
Yes No I cannot say.

3 Read the following excerpts and circle the correct answer.

1. The phrase "In addition to finally meeting all my friends from the Green Teens blog in person, I am meeting a lot of guys that belong to other green organizations from other countries around the world" is:
a. confirming an idea b. continuing a thought c. explaining an idea
2. The phrase "We look very different from each other; nevertheless, we all share the same passion for preserving the environment" is:
a. contrasting ideas b. adding similar ideas c. showing false ideas
3. The phrase "I am learning a lot of new stuff, too" is:
a. confirming an idea b. adding an idea c. explaining an idea
4. The phrase "One of the highlights of the summit, for example, was the keynote speaker, Haru Shiro, who is one of Japan's most respected rock musicians!" is:
a. confirming an idea b. continuing a thought c. explaining an idea
5. The phrase "In conclusion, I know I will remember this summit forever!" is:
a. expressing time b. summing up ideas c. confirming an idea

4. Drag here the Connectors in the questions below: _____



5. Drag the correct Key Words to complete the sentences.

KEY WORDS

contrasting
having a blast!
nevertheless
summit
therefore
too

- a) I have a doll and Lulu wants one _____.
- b) Paco doesn't want to leave the party because he is _____.
- c) Black and white are _____ colors.
- d) He was tired; _____ he went on walking.
- e) They climbed up the mountain and reached the _____.