

# MPC English & Study Skills Center

## Transitions

**Transitions** are the words used to make a change from one topic to another--they create a bridge to make it easier for the reader to understand the material.

### Transitions for descriptions tell where something occurs (Space):

at the left, right	over	behind, in back of
in the center	straight ahead	next, next to, close to
on the side, beside	at the top, bottom	nearby
along the street, river, etc.	surrounding	in the distance, beyond
along the edge	opposite	in the background
on top, above	at the rear, front, side	in the foreground
below, beneath, under	in front of	within sight, out of sight

### Transitions for narratives tell when something happens (Time):

after	formerly	ordinarily
before	rarely	generally
then, now	usually	later
next	another time	to begin with
last, at last, at first	finally	afterwards
first, second, third, etc.	soon	one time
in the morning, evening, etc.	meanwhile	at the same time
during the morning, etc.	duration	at 8 a.m., etc.
for a minute, hour, week	during the day, week, hour, etc.	

### Transitions for directions help to keep things in order (Process):

after, before	once	at last, finally
also	next	now, then
as soon as	first, second, third, etc.	when

### Transitions for information help to organize material (Sequence):

also	but, yet	in fact
moreover	again, since	however
in addition to	on the contrary	as a result, thus
besides	in contrast	on the other hand
therefore	contrariwise	in the same way
meanwhile	otherwise	for example
another	in other words	when
consequently	to sum up, in conclusion	likewise, similarly
for instance	another point	although, even though
furthermore	nevertheless	instead
in the second place	inasmuch as	for, because