ENGLISH, LITERACY, AND COMMUNICATION

Transitions

Difficulty level: Easy

English, Literacy, and Communication

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Overview of the concept

This is how you connect your ideas in writing, like showing you are adding a point, contrasting two sides, or giving a result, so your reader can follow your thinking from one sentence to the next. Without a transition, ideas sit side by side and the reader has to guess how they relate. A good transition names the link, whether you are adding, contrasting, or showing a result. That is what makes an essay read smoothly, instead of feeling like a list of separate sentences.



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Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

Q Choose a transition: I studied hard. ___, I passed. (result)

SOLUTION

The second sentence is the result of the first.

A result transition is 'therefore' (or 'so').

So: I studied hard. Therefore, I passed.

EXAMPLE 2

Q Choose a transition: It rained. ___, we stayed inside. (result)

SOLUTION

The second sentence is the result of the first.

A result transition is 'so'.

So: It rained, so we stayed inside.

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Practice questions

1 Choose: She was tired. ___, she kept working.

- A However
- B Then
- C Therefore
- D Also

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2 Choose: First we ate. ___, we went for a walk.

- A Then
- B However
- C Therefore
- D So

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3

Which transition shows a contrast?

A Then

B However

C Therefore

D Also

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4

Choose: He saved money. ___, he bought a bike.

A Therefore

B However

C Then

D Also

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5

Choose: I like tea. ___, I like coffee.

A Also

B However

C Then

D Therefore

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6

Choose: It was cold. ___, we wore coats.

A So

B However

C Then

D Also

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7 Which sentence needs 'Therefore'?

- **A** The book was long. It was interesting.
- **B** First we ate. We went for a walk.
- **C** She practised daily. She improved.
- **D** I like tea. I like coffee.

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8 Which sentence needs 'However'?

- **A** He saved money. He bought a bike.
- **B** We packed bags. We left.
- **C** I like tea. I like coffee.
- **D** She was tired. She kept working.

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9 **Which transition shows that one thing happens after another?**

- A However
- B Then
- C Therefore
- D Also

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10 **Which transition shows you are adding a point?**

- A However
- B Then
- C Also
- D Therefore

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ANSWER KEY

1. However

2. Then

3. However

4. Therefore

5. Also

6. So

7. She practised daily. She improved.

8. She was tired. She kept working.

9. Then

10. Also

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