**USING TRANSITIONS**  
  
When you write an essay or a letter, how do you connect your sentences, paragraphs, and ideas? How does your writing flow and make sense to your audience?

In writing, **transitions connect sentences, paragraphs, and main ideas to create a unified piece of work**.

Let’s look at three strategies to writing strong transitions:

1. **Highlight Connections.**

The key to writing cohesive transitions is to highlight the connections between related paragraphs. As you transition to a new paragraph, reference information in previous paragraphs that will support and connect new facts and ideas. Use phrases such as:

* “Take the case of…explained in paragraph two…”
* “This fact correlates with…examined in section one…”
* “This situation is similar to…as discussed earlier…”

1. **Repeat Important Points.**

When you transition to a new paragraph using phrases like:

* “As previously stated…”
* “As I have noted…”
* “In brief…”

You’re using a repetitive transition. These transitions reiterate important information readers must know in order to understand upcoming ideas and concepts.

1. **Discuss in Sequence.**

One of the simplest ways to transition from point to point in your work is to write in sequence. When events and information flow in a natural, chronological order, readers are able to follow the development of your main idea easier. To transition in a progressive way, use phrases like:

* *First*
* *Next*
* *Then*
* *Following this*
* *Afterward*

Don’t stop learning about transitions with these three strategies. Discover more ways to create strong transitions throughout your writing.