Transitional Words and Phrases

Transitional words and transitional phrases provide unity and coherence. Coherent writing flows smoothly from one point to another, and from one sentence or paragraph to the next. A transition provides a means of linking ideas (what has been said and what will be said) to clarify the relationship between them.

Transitions can:

**Show addition**
- E.g., for example, for instance, specifically, as an illustration, to illustrate, that is, generally, in particular, especially, as an example, in other words, that is to say

**Show comparison**
- E.g., similarly, likewise, along the same lines, in the same vein/way, compared to X

**Show contrast**
- E.g., but, yet, still, however, nevertheless, on the other hand, nonetheless, instead, conversely, even so, in spite of this/that, unlike x, after all, although this may be true, for all that, in contrast, in other circumstances, on the contrary, otherwise, still, certainly, of course, although, even though, whereas

**Show conclusion**
- E.g., therefore, as a result, consequently, in conclusion, to conclude, in summary, to summarize, finally, in short, on the whole, in brief, in a word, all in all, indeed, in other words, in the end

**Show time sequence**
- E.g., first/second/third, then, after that/afterward, soon/soon after, next, earlier, meanwhile, presently, finally

**Show cause and effect**
- E.g., thus, hence, as a consequence/result of x, for this reason, due to x, accordingly, for this purpose, inevitably, necessarily, that being the case, to this end, so, and so, for, since, because, so/such… that, now that, once, as…