

Tie Your Ideas Together with Transition Words

Congratulations on your purchase of this Really Good Stuff® **Tie Your Ideas Together with Transition Words Banner**.

Inside this Really Good Stuff® package you'll find:

- **Tie Your Ideas Together with Transition Words Banner**, 39" x 12"
- This Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

Introducing the *Tie Your Ideas Together with Transition Words Poster*

Some students may be unfamiliar with the concept of transition—what the word itself means. Ask students if they've heard the word before, perhaps in sports, as in "transition game". Explain that the term means "moving from one condition or place to another one". In sports, it may refer to moving from offense to defense. Explain that good writers use transition words to help move the reader from one thought to another, from one idea to another. Show the **Tie Your Ideas Together with Transition Words Banner**, reading aloud the five uses displayed. Explain that students will first learn to recognize these words, then will move on to actually using them in their own writing.

Tie Your Ideas Together with Transition Words Banner Activities

This comprehensive poster allows you to display five of the most common uses for transition words and to give examples of such words. The activity guide offers several levels of interaction with transition words, from simply recognizing them to actually using them to improve students' writing. Before introducing the poster to students, make a copy of this Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide.

Transition Words in Everyday Places

1. Watch TV for homework?

Direct students to watch a portion of a TV newscast with their parents. (Parents may choose to monitor the broadcast for child-appropriate material.) Students should pay attention to how broadcasters transition from one story to another, from one department to another (i.e., from political news to the weather forecast), and from the newscast to commercials. Direct students to write down the transition words that were used, making a list to bring to class in 2 or 3 days. To clarify the assignment before giving it to students, the teacher may wish to videotape a portion of a newscast (editing out material deemed inappropriate for young ears/eyes) and show it to students in order to point out a few examples of transitions.

2. Social Studies Connection

Scan students' social studies texts for a selection that contains several transition words. Use that passage to show transition words in actual use by textbook writers to show time, to compare and contrast, to show location, and to clarify and add information. Challenge students to scan other text selections and identify transition words. Then challenge them to identify why the writers used those words and for what purpose.

3. A Novel Idea

Use literature already in the classroom to show examples of effective use of transition words.

- After reading a passage, point out a transition word, and ask students to think of why the author may have chosen to use that word in that passage? Was it to show time or to clarify? Remind students that professional authors are very purposeful when they choose specific words. Both the writers and the editors read and evaluate every word in a novel.
- After reading a chapter, have students work in small groups to locate and list as many transition words as they can find. Students compete by using the same page/selection and trying to be first to locate all transition words in the shortest time.
- Assign a small group of students to different portions of a passage that has already been read in class. Have them locate and write on the chalkboard all transition words in their assigned passage. Then have the class review the author's transition words, stressing that good writers use transition words regularly and that student writers should do the same.

4. Students' Writing

Have students select a piece of previously completed writing from their writing folders. Let them search for transition words, circling each one that they find. Students may be surprised to see that they already use some transition words in their own writings. Make the effective use of transition words a goal in students' revisions of their own writing, stressing that overuse and adding words without good reason is bad writing.

Time Transition Words

A. Read the following paragraph carefully. Then, locate and circle each transition word that shows time.

You can make your own cards to celebrate special events. First, gather the materials you need: construction paper, scissors, crayons or markers, and glue. Second, fold a piece of construction paper to create a card that has a front, a back, and an inside. Cut out interesting shapes from more construction paper, and glue the shapes to the front and back of your card. You may also draw colorful pictures on the front and back of the card. Finally, write a brief message inside the card, and sign your name. Now you're ready to give your card to someone special.

B. Write your own sentence using a time transition word.

Transition Words That Compare or Contrast

A. Read the following sentences carefully. Then, locate and circle each transition word that compares or contrasts.

1. I was anxious to leave. However, we had to wait until Uncle Pete arrived.
2. Mother told us to hurry onto the bus. Otherwise, we all would have been caught in the rain.
3. I make my sandwich in the same way that Shawna does. We both use food that is peanut free because of our food allergies.
4. I asked about the homework, but neither Todd nor Antonio knew what had been assigned.
5. Even though it was very cold, Mary Beth did not wear a jacket.

B. Write one or more sentences using and circling at least one transition word that either compares or contrasts.

Find the Transition Words

A. Transition words have been left out of the following paragraph. Select appropriate words from the list below, and write them in the proper places. There can be more than one word that fits in some places. Select the one that you think fits best.

meanwhile
while
beside

as a result of
through
then

first
next

once upon a time
under

(1) _____ there lived a family of bears in a lovely wooded area. Their home was (2)

_____ ~~sometrees~~ (3) _____ a small stream. One day

(4) _____ the bears were not at home, a little girl came to the house.

(5) _____, she knocked on the door. (6) _____, even though no one

answered her knock, she entered the house. (7) _____, she ate some of the bears' food, and she

napped on one of their beds. (8) _____, the bears returned home. They were surprised

to see their door open. Their roars woke up the girl, and she fearfully ran from the house,

(9) _____ the woods, and back to her own home.

(10) _____ her experiences, she never again went into the woods alone.

B. Select a topic from the list below. Write a paragraph about that topic using at least three transition words. Circle each transition word used in your paragraph.

a sport
a holiday

eating healthy foods
living with a disability

a vacation
a pet

Transition Words

A. Circle the correct answer to each question.

1. Which transition word shows location?
a. for example b. below c. then

2. Which transition word shows time?
a. between b. in other words c. later

3. Which transition word adds information?
a. in addition b. over c. earlier

4. Which transition word compares and contrasts?
a. earlier b. besides c. otherwise

5. Which transition word clarifies?
a. first b. besides c. in other words

B. Write a statement. Then, write a statement that clarifies.

example: My brother runs fast. As a result, my brother has won every race on the playground this year.

Write a statement. Then, write a sentence beginning with “for example”.

example: Felicia is a helpful girl.
For example, she helps her father prepare breakfast.
