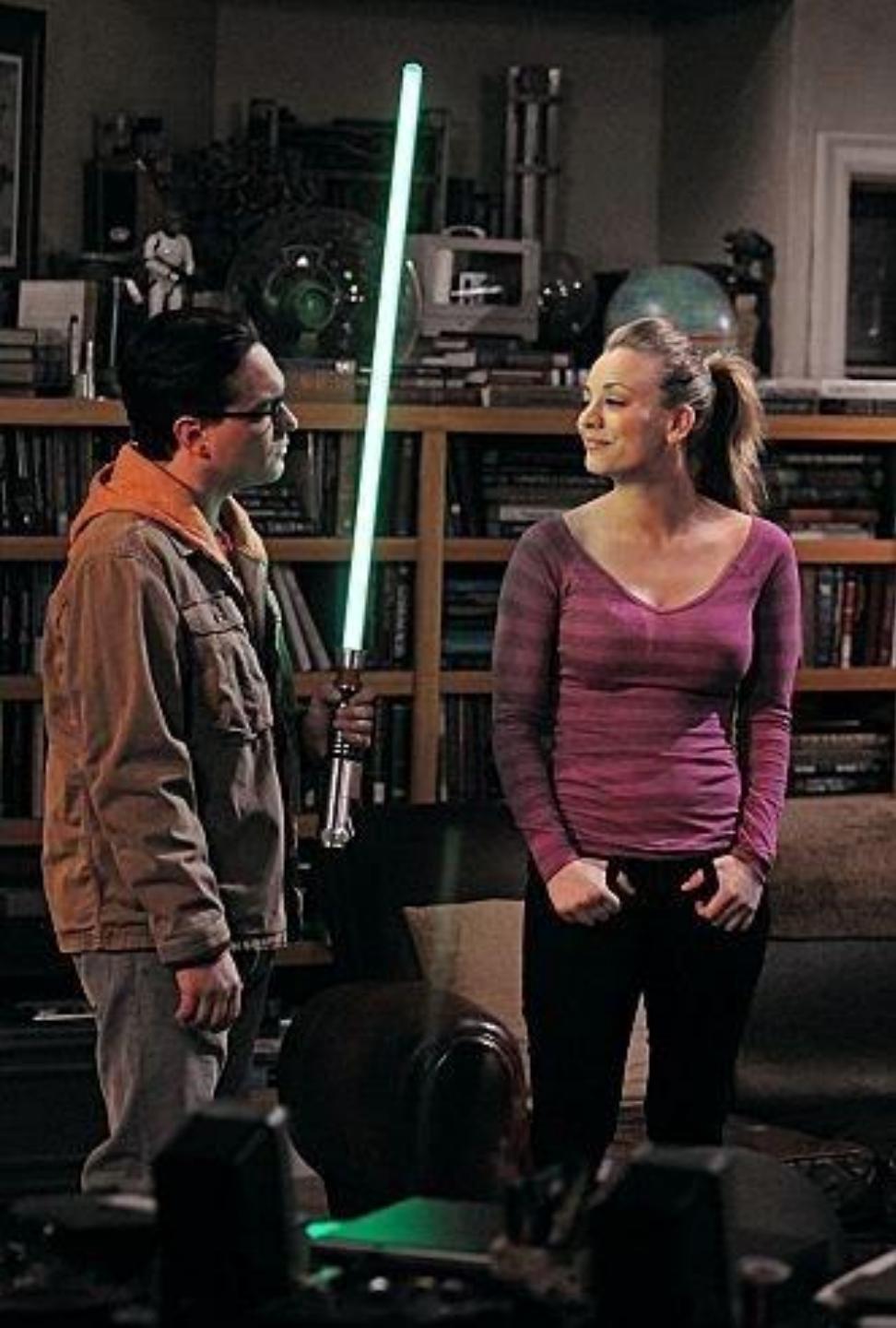




TRANSITIONS |



Q. How could this be improved?

Leonard and Sheldon were roommates. Leonard was lonely. Penny moved in. Leonard fell in love with her. She initially rejected him. They eventually started dating. They broke up. They started dating again. Leonard proposed to Penny. She accepted.

A. Add transitions

Leonard and Sheldon were roommates, but Leonard was lonely. However, when Penny moved in, Leonard fell in love with her. Though she initially rejected him, they eventually started dating. After a while, they broke up. However, they started dating again soon after. When Leonard proposed to Penny, she accepted.

What are transitional expressions?

Words or phrases that establish logical connections between words, phrases, sentences and paragraphs.

Overview

1. Purpose
2. Categories
3. Functions
4. Alternatives

Purpose



What do transitions do?

They act as
bridges from one
idea to another.



What do transitions do?

They act as **signposts** that show readers how ideas relate to each other.

Categories

Categories

1. Adverbial words/phrases
2. Prepositions/Prepositional phrases
3. Conjunctions

Adverbial phrases

Adverbial words/phrases are words or group of words that modify verbs, adjectives, or adverbs.

As transition words, they typically apply to verbs.

They often introduce a sentence.

Adverbial Words

These often appear at the beginning of a sentence and are closed off with a comma.

Examples

- However
- Therefore
- Additionally
- Moreover
- Besides

Adverbial Phrases

Often appear at the beginning of the sentence.

Usually start with a preposition.

When opening a sentence, they are closed out with a comma.

Examples

- In the 18th century,
- During the evening,
- At the library,
- With regard to education,

Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases

A preposition comes before
(pre) a noun/pronoun

Highlights an object's
position to another noun

May be a phrase that starts
with a preposition

Prepositions

- In
- On
- At
- Of
- For
- From
- To
- Over

Prepositional Phrases

- During World War II,
- In May of 1941,
- On November 11th, 1918,
- For a variety of reasons,

Conjunctions

Coordinating

Subordinating

Correlating

Coordinators: Examples

- F For (*explains why*)
- A And (*addition*)
- N Nor (*excludes*)
- B But (*disagree/contrast*)
- O Or (*alternative*)
- Y Yet (*disagree/contrast*)
- S So (*consequence*)

FANBOYS

THE SAGA'S BIGGEST FANS
ON THE GALAXY'S GREATEST MISSION



Subordinating

Preceding

Concluding

Preceding: Introduce a clause

1. If you need space, you should join NASA.
2. Because I took a day off, I got fired from the calendar factory.
3. If an evening dress is eveningwear, a suit of armor must be silver ware.

Concluding: Follow a clause

1. The skeleton didn't go to the dance because he had nobody to dance with.
2. Why do they put a light in the fridge if we shouldn't eat at night?
3. The golfer needs new socks because he has a hole in one.

Correlating Conjunctions

Correlating conjunctions links pairs of words within a sentence and frames them as equally important.

- either... or
- neither... nor
- whether... or
- just as... so
- as... as
- as much... as
- no sooner... than

Functions

Functions

1. Temporal Relationships
2. Spatial Relationships
3. Logical Relationships

Sequential

Before

During

After

Temporal Relationships

- first/firstly, for example/instance
 - second, thirdly, fourthly, ect.
- Then, soon, later, during, meanwhile, subsequently, immediately, at length, eventually, in the future, currently
 - Last/Lastly, Finally,

Sequential



Example

First Thanos collected the Infinity Stones, then he wiped out half the universe. Now he is enjoying his retirement.

- Before
- Prior to
- Leading up to
- In advance of
 - Ahead of
 - Preciding
 - By

Before

During

- While
- As
- Since
- At the same time as
- During
- Meanwhile
- All the while

After

- After
- Afterwards
 - Later
 - Then
 - Next
- Subsequently
- After a while



Example

Prior to joining the UFC, Ronda Rousey competed in the 2008 Olympics. After joining the UFC, she became the first female UFC champion. During her UFC career, she began acting. Now she is a WWE superstar!

Above

Below

Beside

Other

Spatial Relationships

Above

- Above
- Over
- Overhead
- Beyond
- On top of

- Below
- Under
- Beneath
- Underneath

Below

Beside

- Beside
- Next to
- Alongside
- Side by side
- Side by each
- Adjacent to

Others

- Behind
- Before
- In front of
 - In
 - Within
 - Without
- Outside of



Example

The Writing Support Desk is **in** Leddy Library, **on** the first floor **and adjacent to** the Circulation Desk. **Below** the desk is Leddy's lower level, **and above** is the library's collection of books.

Example/Addition

Compare/Contrast

Cause/Conclusion

Concession

Logical Relationships

Logical Transitions: Addition

- In addition
- Additionally
- Furthermore
- Moreover
- Likewise
- Also
- And
- Lastly/Finally



Example

There are several reasons why Michonne should stay. **For example**, she is great with a sword. **In addition**, she is brave. **Lastly**, I'm too scared to tell her to leave.

- Similarly
- Likewise
- In the same way
 - Equally
- Correspondingly

Logical Transitions: Comparison



Example

Julian Assange
created WikiLeaks.
Likewise, Chewbacca
created WookieLeaks.

Logical Transitions: Contrast

- In contrast
- However
- Though/Although
- But
- Conversely
- Alternately



Example

A comma is a pause
at the end of a clause.
In contrast, cats have
claws at the end of
their paws.

Logical Transitions: Concession

- Of course
- To be sure
- Certainly
- Naturally
- Granted
- Still
- That Said



Example

Of course I love
you; you're
family!

Logical Transitions: Cause

- Therefore
- Thus
- Consequently
- So
- Accordingly
- Due to
- Hence
- As a result
- Because



Example

René Descartes
says, “I think;
therefore, I am!”



Example

Donald Trump
says, “I tweet;
therefore, I am!”

Logical Transitions: Cause

- In conclusion
 - To conclude
- In summation
 - To finish
 - In closing



Example

“In closing, I am confident that you gentlemen will review, without passion, the evidence that you have heard.”

Atticus Finch



...and many, many more.

Still looking for more? Find an even more comprehensive list [here](#).

Alternatives

Problems with transitions

- Increased word count
- Repetitive structure/language
- Formulaic writing

Can ideas be
connected
without
using
transitional
expressions?

Repeat

Repeat a word or phrase from a previous sentence or paragraph

Use

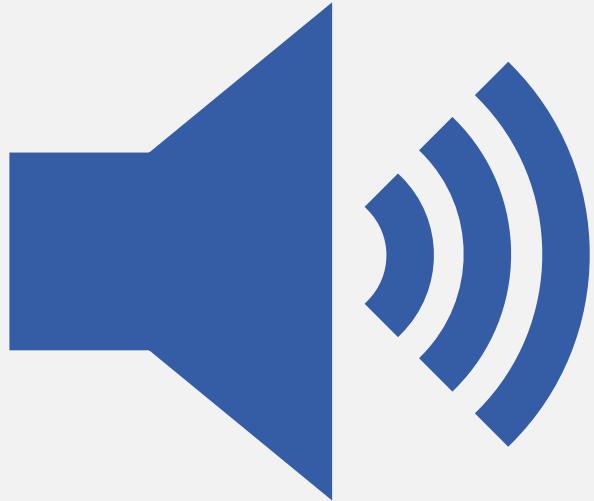
Use pronouns that refers to a noun/phrase used previously

Pair

Pair associated/binary word combinations

Add

Add punctuation



Repetition

This creates a chorus that aligns text.

This approach is more common when speaking



Example

Martin Luther
King Jr.

“I have a dream.”

“We shall overcome.”



Example

Kurt Vonnegut

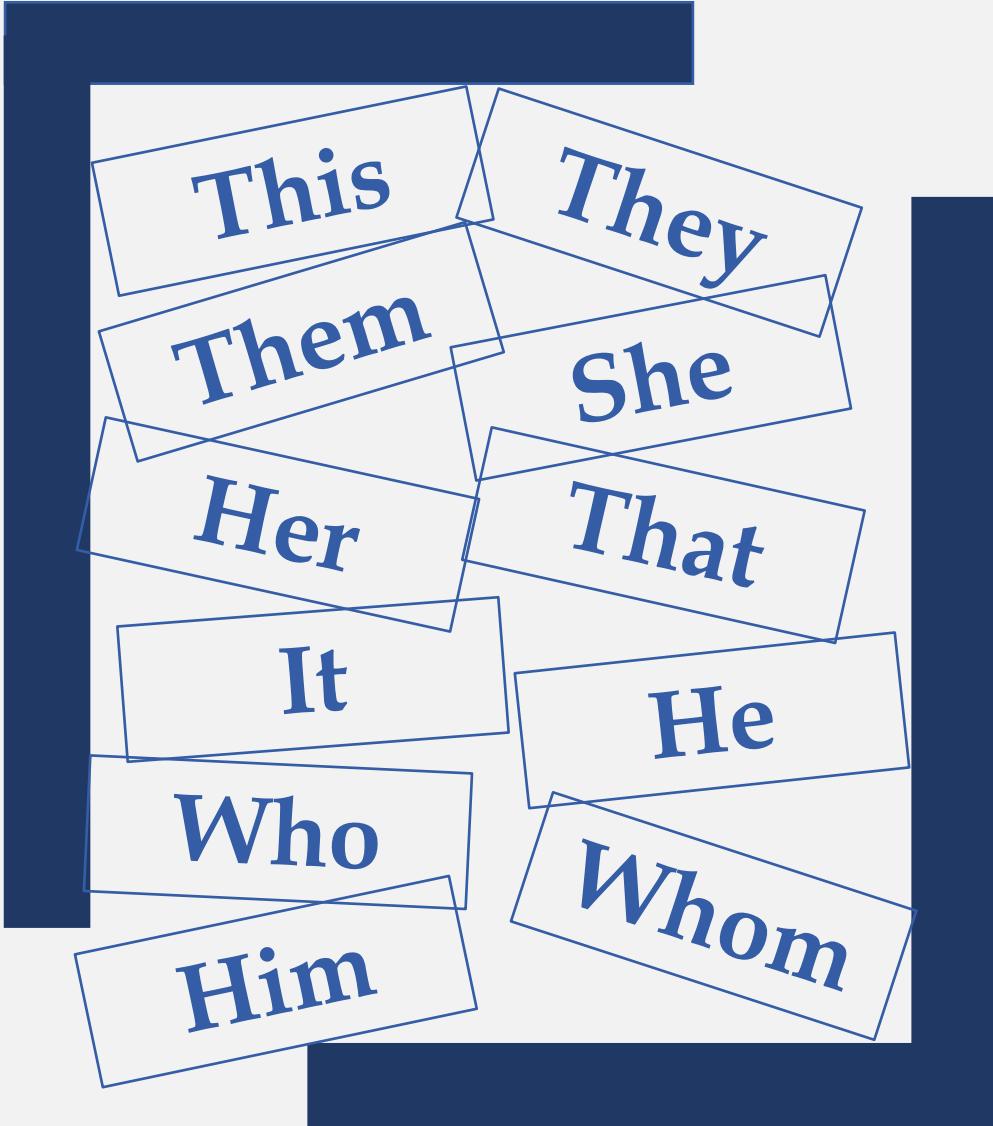
“So it goes...”



Barack Obama

“Yes we can.”

Example



Pronouns

When used effectively, pronouns can call back to the ideas, peoples, and things recently discussed and link them to new ideas.



Example

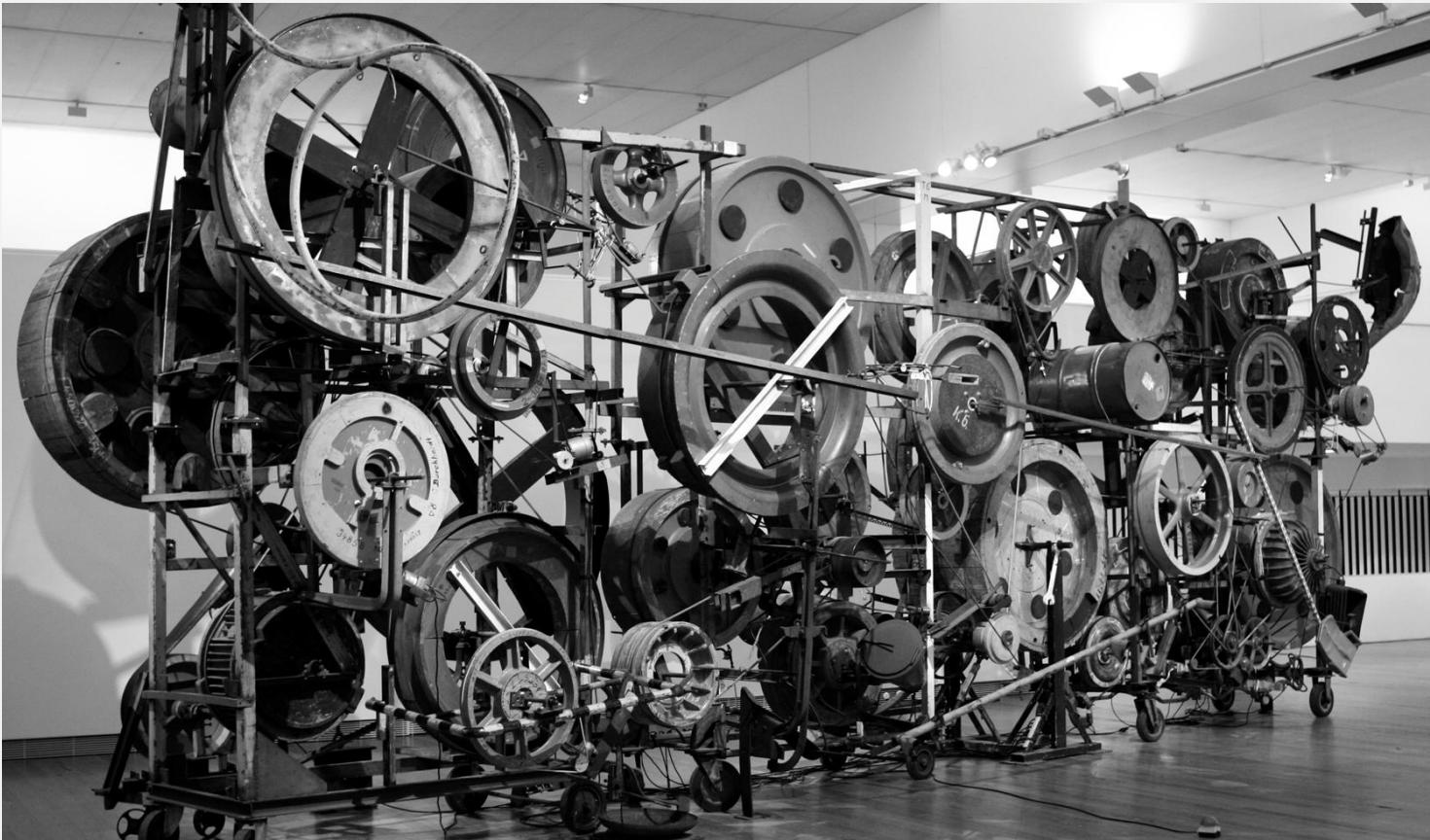
After Catwoman rescued Batman, **he** tried to arrest **her**. **That** was the last time **she** would ever help **him**.



Pairing Words

Pairs words associated with each other helps to create implied relationships.

This is especially effective with binary terms.



Example

The machine has a **minimum** output of 500 units per week. The **maximum** output is one million units.



Punctuation

Punctuation can guide the reader and show the relationships between clauses, phrases, and words.

- Colons and introduce lists, conclusions, and summaries
- Semicolons can tell the reader to infer a relationship.



Example

Sheldon's not here;
there is a train exhibit
down town.



I examined the
evidence: everybody
participated in the
murder!

Example

Kahoot!



Exercise

Mad Libs



Overview

Category	Purpose	Alternatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Adverbs2. Conjunctions3. Preposition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Temporal2. Spatial3. Logical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Repetition2. Pairing/binaries3. Pronouns4. Punctuation

Questions?





Still Have Citation
Questions?

If you more individualized support, visit us at the Writing Support Desk in Leddy Library!