**Using transitions**

Why bother about transitions? The answer is simple: even if you’ve created the perfect presentation, with the perfect beginning, middle and end, you still need to connect the parts smoothly and seamlessly.

Good transitions accomplish two things primarily. They provide a natural link from one main idea or section to another. They can also serve as both a summary of what you’ve just discussed, while providing a glimpse at what you’re about to discuss next. As such, transitions are useful to both you, the presenter, and useful to your audience as well.

**An example**

Specific purpose: The purpose is to inform the audience about circus clowns.

Thesis statement: Clowning has a history, an educational process, and famous personalities.

Possible transitions to introduce main point I, “History of circus clowns”:

1. Let me first tell you about circus clowns and their history.

2. Circus clowns have an interesting history.

3. I found out some really interesting aspects of clown history.

Possible transitions to introduce main point II, “College for clowns”:

1. Now that I’ve told you about clowns and their history, I want you to know that they also have their own college.

2. Circus clowns not only have a history; they also have a college.

3. While I found that clown history was interesting, I soon discovered that clown college as unimaginable.

Possible transitions to introduce main point III, “Well-know clown personalities”:

1. Since I’ve told you about clown college, I’d like you to hear about a few well-known clown personalities.

2. But clowns are not complete without personality-and I’d like to talk about some of the most famous clown personalities.

3. After I discovered clown college, I came across some fascinating clown personalities.

Possible transitions to introduce the conclusion:

1. Now that you’ve heard about clown history, education and famous clown personalities, I hope you will have a little more appreciation of this art the next time you see a circus clown.

2. In every part of the world, people of all ages have laughed at these interesting creatures called clowns.

3. I hope you’ve enjoyed some of the discoveries I’ve made about clowns.