

How to Crack TOEFL® iBT

TOEFL® iBT Transitional Words

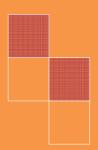
Transitional words, called also linking words or signal words, are of huge importance for building your written and spoken responses. As the name suggests these words help you to move from one idea to another in a smooth and coherent way. They also signal the reader or listener what will follow after the transitional word. That is why transitional word will be helpful not only to do better in your TOEFL® iBT Speaking and Writing, but also to better comprehend the information presented in the TOEFL® iBT Reading and Listening sections.



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In this document we provide a list of some transitional words and their usage within the text. We do not claim that this is the complete list of transitional words, but we may state that it covers the most common transitional words. Studying this list will greatly improve the organization of your responses and thus enhance your chances of better result at TOEFL® iBT Exam.

Transitional Words Grouped according to their Purpose

To add extra information

and coupled with last, lastly last but not least also equally important likewise additionally finally alternatively first, second, third, and etc moreover following this further and then not only ..., but also... apart from further not to mention as well furthermore or as well as indeed then, too besides in addition (to) too besides that in fact what is more

Example: **Likewise** the speaking section, the TOEFL® iBT writing papers are sent to the ETS's Online Scoring Network where they are scored by certified raters.

To give examples

for example	in particular	in particular
as an example	in this situation	specifically
chiefly	including	such as
for instance	markedly	take the case of
especially	namely	to demonstrate
illustrated with	notably	to illustrate
in this case	on this occasion	as an illustration
in another case	particularly	



Example: Most of English Language Exams are divided into separate parts that test different language components. For example, TOEFL iBT has four sections – Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing. Some other exams, including Cambridge FCE, CAE and CPE include Use of English or Grammar in their formats.

To clarify the information you have presented

above all in this case under certain circumstances

I mean that is to say up to a point in other words to put it in another way what I mean is

Example: **To put it in another way,** five are the components that you should pay attention where preparing for any English Language Test – Reading, Listening, Speaking, Writing, Use of English or Grammar.

To present consequence

accordingly hence therefore as a result in that case thus consequently otherwise thereupon

for this reason so then under those circumstances

for this purpose subsequently wherefore

Example: As a result, most ESL (English as a Second Language) books and training programs are organized around this kind of division and closely follow this format.

To generalize information and facts

As a rule Generally Usually

As usual Generally speaking

For the most part Ordinarily

Example: Generally speaking, the format is based on testing particular skills.

To compare and contrast

but in a like manner rather by the same token instead similarly by way of contrast likewise still nevertheless conversely though equally on one hand whereas on the other hand while however in contrast on the contrary yet



Example: **Generally speaking**, the format is based on testing particular skills, **rather** testing passive knowledge.

To present sequential information

afterward in the first place the meantime

at first in time then

at the same time in turn to begin with

earlier later soon

first of all later on simultaneously

first/second/third/last/lastly meanwhile while

for now next

for the time being the next step

Example: Simultaneously, vocabulary and grammar are tested in context.

To summarize

after all in any case lastly all in all in any event on balance all things considered in brief on the whole altogether in conclusion overall as a final point in short to conclude briefly in summary to put it briefly by and large in the end to sum up finally in the final analysis to summarize in a word in the long run

Example: **To summarize,** TOEFL® iBT tests your skills needed to succeed in English speaking academic environment.

Once again, using transitional words and phrases help you write or speak organize your thoughts in more logical and understandable way. Transitional words clarify the conjunctions and transitions between ideas and thoughts and thus facilitate the reader or listener's comprehension. From that perspective, the right usage of transitional words will pay back with a better score on your TOEFL® iBT Exam.

See also our section with Test Taking Strategies for more tips on writing good essays.

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