

# SIGNPOSTS

STW UNIT 03

# WHAT IS SIGNPOSTING?

- Certain words or phrases to create ‘signposts’ to guide the readers through the writing.
- Signposts, like road signs, show the readers the route the writing will take.
- Signposts remind the readers of key points, and point out changes in direction.
- Signposts help the readers understand the connections between the points, and how they relate to the overall theme.

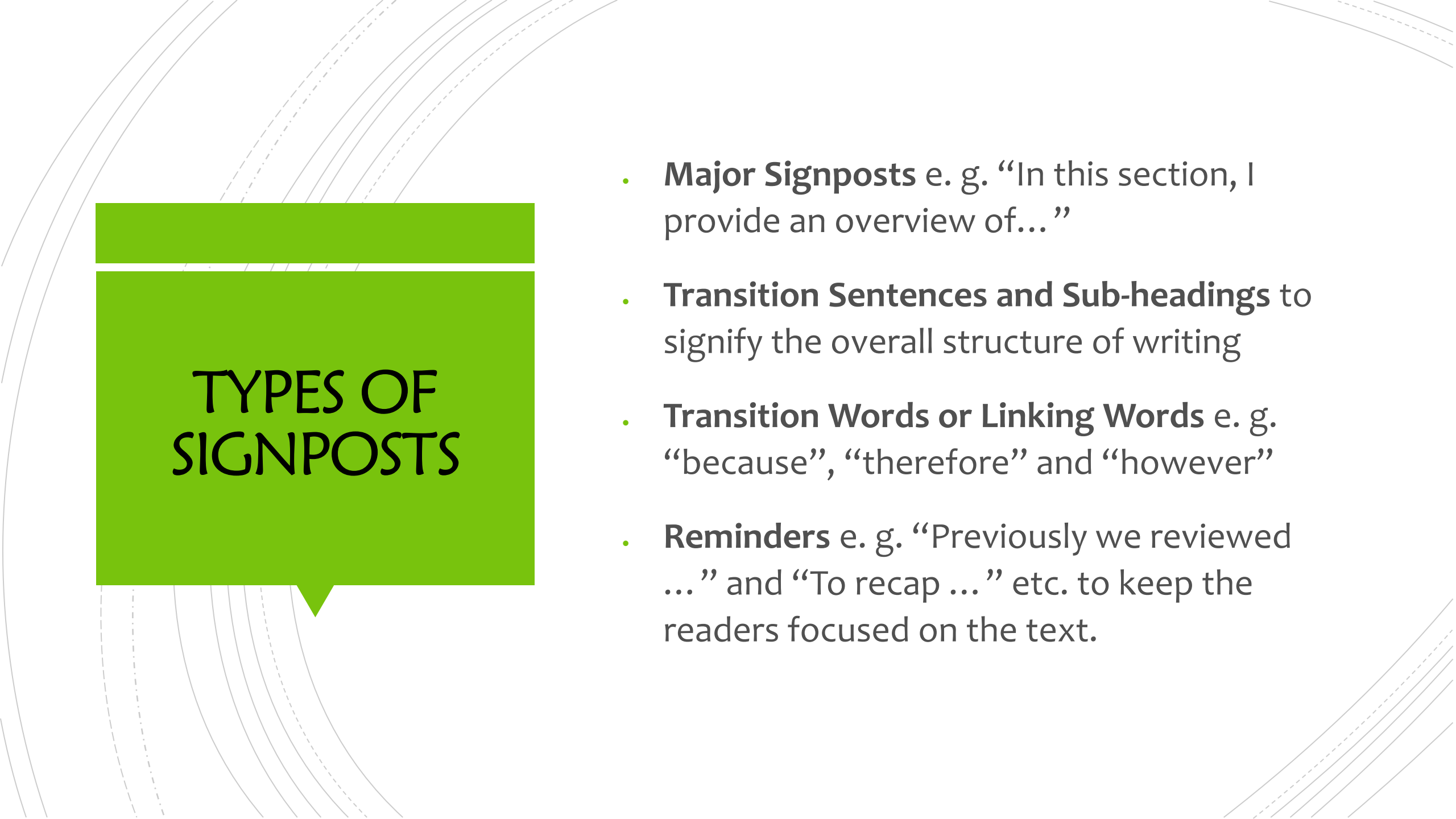
# WHY SIGNPOSTING?

- Signposting contributes to overall coherence and cohesion of text.
- Major Signposts, Transition Sentences and Sub-headings contribute to the **coherence** of writing i. e. overall organisation and flow
- Linking Words contribute to **cohesion** i. e. internal organisation of writing, and linkage of ideas.
- Signposts help the readers to interpret information presented in text.

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## TIPS FOR SIGNPOSTING

- Use signposting throughout writing so that you the readers can stay on track and easily follow the argument.
- Use a range of different signposting strategies: simple words and phrases, sub-headings, transition sentences, link words and reminders.
- Have someone else read the text; If they can follow the argument without help, the signposting is successful.
- Avoid overuse of signposting as this can interrupt the flow of writing.

The background of the slide features several thin, curved lines in a light gray color, some solid and some dashed, creating a modern, abstract design. On the left side, there is a green graphic element consisting of a horizontal bar and a larger speech bubble-like shape below it, both in a vibrant green color. The title 'TYPES OF SIGNPOSTS' is written in black, bold, uppercase letters inside the green speech bubble.

## TYPES OF SIGNPOSTS

- **Major Signposts** e. g. “In this section, I provide an overview of...”
- **Transition Sentences and Sub-headings** to signify the overall structure of writing
- **Transition Words or Linking Words** e. g. “because”, “therefore” and “however”
- **Reminders** e. g. “Previously we reviewed ...” and “To recap ...” etc. to keep the readers focused on the text.



## MAJOR SIGNPOSTS

- **Major Signposts** are used to indicate important elements of the text, such as purpose, position, main points, and conclusions.
- **Examples:**
  - This paper argues that...
  - This essay critically examines...
  - I will focus on...
  - This thesis begins by... It goes on to... Finally...
  - In conclusion...

# TRANSITION SENTENCES

- **Transition Sentences** are used to explain the logic of moving from one idea to another.
- **Examples:**
  - Having examined... it is now necessary to...
  - It is clear that... I will therefore now consider...
  - In the above discussion... It is also important, however, to examine...
  - One of the most significant factors in... is...
  - Another key implication of... is...

# TRANSITION WORDS

- **Transition Words or Linking Words** are used to identify the connections between ideas.
- They tell the readers what to expect next, or how to interpret what they read.
- They are used to connect ideas within sentences, between sentences or between paragraphs.
- **SEE** the pdf on TRANSITIONS for further examples of Transition Words and Phrases



TYPES OF LINKING WORDS	EXAMPLES
<b>Addition</b>	Also, In addition, Furthermore, Moreover
<b>Cause and effect</b>	As a result, Consequently, Due to, Because of this, The effect of this is
<b>Comparison and contrast</b>	Similarly, Likewise, In the same way, Correspondingly, On one hand, On the other hand, However, In contrast, Alternatively
<b>Examples</b>	For instance, To illustrate this, As a case in point, We can see this in the case of
<b>Exception and qualification</b>	However, Nevertheless, Although, Despite this, While, Whereas
<b>Time and sequence</b>	First, Initially, To begin, After that, Subsequently, Meanwhile, At the same time, Previously, Before, After, Finally

# REMINDERS

- **Reminders** help the readers remember and revise the content. This is particularly useful in long essays.
- **Examples:**
  - In summary...
  - So far...
  - As we have seen above...
  - We saw in Section 2 that...
- Summing up is another kind of reminder; this helps the readers to consolidate the content of one section or chapter before moving on to the next.
- **Examples:**
  - In conclusion, In other words, In brief, Thus



THANK YOU!