

# Connecting Sentences

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Soc Sci 172AW

# How to Connect Sentences: Key Points

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- Good writing is more than grammar/spellcheck
- Every sentences should relate to the one that came before
  - Avoid piling up information
  - Instead, build an argument
- Tools
  - Transitions
  - Pointing words

# Transitions: Example

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- Tells the reader that this sentence is providing a concrete example for the point made above it
  - “After the American Revolution, women’s political participation was restricted. For example, only one state (New Jersey) allowed women to vote.”
  - “Economic inequality was evident during the American Revolution. For example, wealthy men were able to pay money to avoid military service.”

**EXAMPLE**

after all  
as an illustration  
consider  
for example

for instance  
specifically  
to take a case in point

# Transitions: Addition

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- Tells the reader that this sentence is adding more information
  - “After the American Revolution, women’s political participation was restricted. For example, only one state (New Jersey) allowed women to vote. In addition, women were limited to indirect participation, as their political influence was to be exerted through their husbands and sons.”

## ADDITION

also  
and  
besides  
furthermore  
in addition

indeed  
in fact  
moreover  
so too

# Transitions: Contrast

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- Tells the reader that this sentence will be adding conflicting/contradictory information or modifying the preceding point
  - “The Declaration of Independence promised equality for all when it declared ‘all men are created equal’. However, this equality was limited to white, property owning men. For example, women’s political participation was restricted after the Revolution.”

## CONTRAST

although  
but  
by contrast  
conversely  
despite  
even though  
however  
in contrast

nevertheless  
nonetheless  
on the contrary  
on the other hand  
regardless  
whereas  
while yet

# Transitions: Cause and Effect

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- Tells the reader that the info in this sentence was caused by the info in the preceding sentence
  - “At the time of the Revolution, society viewed women as mentally and emotionally weaker than men. As a result, there was almost no serious consideration of granting women full political rights.”

## CAUSE AND EFFECT

accordingly  
as a result  
consequently  
hence  
since

so  
then  
therefore  
thus

# Transitions: Choose Wisely!

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- “At the time of the Revolution, women were seen as mentally and emotionally weaker than men. In contrast, there was almost no serious consideration of granting women full political rights.”
- “The Declaration of Independence promised equality for all when it declared ‘all men are created equal’. As a result, this equality was limited to white, property owning men.”

# Pointing Words

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- Use words such as “these,” “this,” “such,” “her,”
- Compare:
  - “America stressed the ideas of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. It held others in bondage. There was racism and inequality.”
  - “Though America was a nation that stressed the ideas of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, it was also a nation that held other human beings in bondage. This contradiction of beliefs would foreshadow the perpetuation of racism and inequality.”

# Pointing Words, cont.

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- Compare:
  - “The Declaration of Independence promised equality for all when it declared ‘all men are created equal’. Only white men who owned property could vote.”
  - “The Declaration of Independence promised equality for all when it declared ‘all men are created equal’. However, this equality was limited to white, property owning men.”