



Making Successful Transitions

It's a common misconception that all that matters in a presentation is a stirring introduction, strong content material, and a memorable conclusion. While these all add to a strong presentation, there should be something in between that ties them together. Transition statements are crucial to ensuring clarity and coherency in the course of a presentation.

Presentations often contain about 2-3 main points, each of which is supported by sub-points. Depending on what the topic is and the density of the provided information, the audience may become overwhelmed and lose focus. Transitions are important to establish flow and maintain consistency between previous and future points.

Below are some tips on when and how to effectively use transitions.

1. To move from one point to another

Example: "Now that we are all acquainted with the causes of global warming, my next point details the long and short term effects."

2. To indicate agreement/similarity/addition/reinforce points

Example: "Additionally, the effects of global warming can be seen in..." OR "In the same fashion, this is manifested through..." etc.

3. To oppose/contradict

Example: "Although this objection is plausible, it still does not provide a better solution to reduce the effects of global warming..." OR "in spite of," etc.

4. To show purpose/cause

Example: “As a result of this/therefore” OR “With this in mind...”

5. To provide examples/place emphasis

Example: “To demonstrate the rapidness of the effects of global warming, here is a graph showing the increase from...” OR “specifically/in fact/for instance...”

6. To show consequences/results/effects

Example: “Under these conditions, it is not surprising that...” OR “consequently/hence,” etc.

7. To conclude/signal conclusion

Example: “In essence, the point of what we’ve discussed is that...” OR “in short/to summarize/altogether,” etc.

This list is not meant to be exhaustive in terms of the different ways to use transitions or types of transitions. Be creative with your presentation and how you phrase each statement!