

# Words or Phrases to Help with Transitions

By Randy Colver

IT HAS BEEN MY OBSERVATION that many post high school graduates have difficulty making transitions when writing theme papers. The following is a collection of words or phrases that may help you make those transitions. This is not an exhaustive list; you may find many more to add as you continue to write. Many can be used at the beginning of a paragraph and most, though not all, should be followed by a comma. (Notice that “everwho” and “y’all might could” are not listed.)

I’ve added a couple of exercises at the end of this lesson to help you get used to a few transitional words.

- |                             |   |                       |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 1. Further                  | 28. It is important to remember               | 52. While some        |
| 2. In addition              | 29. At the very least                         | 53. Despite all this  |
| 3. Also                     | 30. While there is                            | 54. Overall           |
| 4. Furthermore              | 31. Nevertheless                              | 55. Afterward         |
| 5. Moreover                 | 32. Unfortunately                             | 56. All this provides |
| 6. In a similar way         | 33. Sadly                                     | 57. In short          |
| 7. In particular            | 34. Despite this                              | 58. In the end        |
| 8. In many ways             | 35. In contrast                               | 59. In summary        |
| 9. Throughout               | 36. Though; Although                          | 60. In conclusion     |
| 10. Correspondingly         | 37. Initially                                 | 61. Finally           |
| 11. Accordingly             | 38. At the outset                             |                       |
| 12. Hence                   | 39. First; Second; Third; etc.                |                       |
| 13. Therefore               | 40. Now                                       |                       |
| 14. Thus                    | 41. Now about; Now for; Now to; Now therefore |                       |
| 15. In fact                 | 42. Now concerning                            |                       |
| 16. For example             | 43. One further word                          |                       |
| 17. For instance            | 44. We pause to observe                       |                       |
| 18. For this reason         | 45. When it comes to                          |                       |
| 19. To demonstrate          | 46. It is apparent that                       |                       |
| 20. In this respect         | 47. A related issue                           |                       |
| 21. Indeed                  | 48. The above                                 |                       |
| 22. These highlight         | 49. Before moving to consider                 |                       |
| 23. These make clear        | 50. We now note                               |                       |
| 24. These share             | 51. Still                                     |                       |
| 25. Notably                 |   |                       |
| 26. Note that               |   |                       |
| 27. It is important to note |   |                       |

## Some Biblical Examples of Transitions from the NIV

Try to select the transitional words or phrases that might fit the context of the verses below. Then look the verses up to see what was used.

\_\_\_\_\_ spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant. You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols.

\_\_\_\_\_ I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

—1 Corinthians 12:1-3

For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it. \_\_\_\_\_ the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.—John 5:21-23

\_\_\_\_\_ brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you.—2 Thessalonians 3:1

“You warned them to return to your law, but they became arrogant and disobeyed your commands. They sinned against your ordinances, by which a man will live if he obeys them. Stubbornly they turned their backs on you, became stiff-necked and refused to listen. For many years you were patient with them. By your Spirit you admonished them through your prophets. Yet they paid no attention, so you handed them over to the neighboring peoples. But in your great mercy you did not put an end to them or abandon them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.

“\_\_\_\_\_ O our God, the great, mighty and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love, do not let all this hardship seem trifling in your eyes—the hardship that has come upon us, upon our kings and leaders, upon our priests and prophets, upon our fathers and all your people, from the days of the kings of Assyria until today.”

—Nehemiah 9:29-32

“My father David had it in his heart to build a temple for the Name of the LORD, the God of Israel. 8 But the LORD said to my father David, ‘Because it was in your heart to build a temple for my Name, you did well to have this in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ you are not the one to build the temple, but your son, who is your own flesh and blood—he is the one who will build the temple for my Name.’—2 Chronicles 6:7-9

When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth. Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! \_\_\_\_\_ it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”—Luke 18:23-25

So Jesus called them and spoke to them in parables: “How can Satan drive out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. \_\_\_\_\_ no one can enter a strong man’s house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man. Then he can rob his house.—Mark 3:23-27

## Answers

Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant. You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.—1 Corinthians 12:1-3

For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it. Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.—John 5:21-23

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“Now therefore, O our God, the great, mighty and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love, do not let all this hardship seem trifling in your eyes—the hardship that has come upon us, upon our kings and leaders, upon our priests and prophets, upon our fathers and all your people, from the days of the kings of Assyria until today.—Nehemiah 9:29-32

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