# Essay Paragraph Transitions

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| PURPOSE | TRANSITIONAL PHRASES |
| To clarify a sequence of events | first, second, third, next, finally, last |
| To show a similar relationship | similarly, in like manner, likewise |
| To point out a dissimilarity | in opposition to, in contrast to, on the other hand |
| To emphasize a point | indeed, in fact, surely, certainly |
| To show or point out a result | consequently, as a result, therefore, hence |
| To summarize a position | in summation, finally, in conclusion, in short |
| To illustrate a point | for example, by way of illustration, for instance |
| To contrast a position | on the other hand, however, but, yet, despite, although |
| To record time | gradually, later, eventually, immediately, at once, at this point, next |

Improving Vocabulary for DBQ’s: Using Synonyms for ‘Said’

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| SYNONYM | DEFINITION |
| added | to embellish or enhance an argument |
| continued | to further an earlier point |
| stated | to say, usually confined to quotes or paraphrases from documents, or to official statements |
| announced | to declare publicly or formally |
| asserted | to state positively, with great confidence but no objective proof |
| commented | to make a remark to explain, interpret, or criticize |
| declared | to make known clearly and openly |
| observed | to mention casually |
| remarked | to make a brief, casual statement of opinion |
| reported | to give an account of; to carry a message; to give a formal statement |

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| SYNONYM | DEFINITION |
| acknowledged | implies reluctant disclosure of something that might have been a secret |
| admitted | implies reluctance to disclose, grant, or concede and usually refers to facts |
| affirmed | implies deep conviction and unlikelihood of contradiction |
| alleged | to assert or declare, especially without proof |
| avowed | implies boldly declaring, often in the face of hostility |
| conceded | similar to acknowledge and admit |
| confessed | may apply to an admission of a weakness, failure, omission, or guilt |
| disclosed | to reveal something previously concealed |
| divulged | to reveal something that should have remained a secret, implies a breach of confidence  |
| revealed | to make something known that had been secret or hidden |

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| **SYNONYM** | DEFINITION |
| begged | to ask in a humble or earnest manner |
| demanded | to ask for boldly or urgently |
| implored | to ask with great fervor, implying desperation or great distress |
| insisted | to demand strongly, to declare firmly |
| pleaded | to answer a legal charge, to offer as an excuse or defense, to implore or beg |

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| **SYNONYM** | DEFINITION |
| answered | to respond to a question |
| explained | to make an explanation |
| rejoined | to answer an objection |
| replied | to answer a question or comment |
| responded | to reply to a question or comment |
| retorted | to reply to a charge or criticism in a sharp, witty way |
| returned | to reply to a charge or criticism in a sharp, witty way; to answer an objection |

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| **SYNONYM** | DEFINITION |
| contended | to argue or dispute |
| emphasized | to stress |
| exclaimed | to speak suddenly or vehemently |
| maintained | to assert, to support by argument, to affirm |
| proclaimed | to announce officially |
| proposed | to se forth a design or plan |

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| **SYNONYM** | DEFINITION |
| hinted | implies slight or remote suggestion |
| implied | similar to suggest, but may indicate a more definite relation of the unexpressed to the expressed |
| insinuated | refers to conveying a usually unpleasant idea in a sly underhanded manner |
| intimated | stresses delicacy of suggestion |
| suggested | to propose as a possibility, to convey indirectly by putting an idea into the mind by association |

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| **SYNONYM** | DEFINITION |
| barked | to speak or shout sharply |
| bellowed | to roar, to cry out loudly in anger or fear |
| cried | to call for help, to shout, to sob, to weep |
| croaked | to make a sound like a frog or raven, to talk dismally |
| declaimed | to speak in a pompous way or deliver a tirade |
| drawled | to speak in a way that prolongs the vowels |
| joked | to make a joke |
| mumbled | to utter inarticulate or almost inaudible sounds |
| muttered | to speak angry or discontented words in a low, indistinct voice |
| roared | to utter a loud, deep sound |
| scolded | to find fault with angrily |
| shouted | to make a loud cry or call |
| shrieked | to make a loud, piercing cry or sound |
| wailed | to express grief or pain through long, loud cries |
| whispered | to speak softly, especially to avoid being overheard |

**Improved Vocabulary for Comparative Essays**

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| **Descriptive Verbs** | **Compare** | **Contrast** |
| Asserts | Agree | Conversely |
| Compliments | Also | Differently |
| Criticizes | As well  | Disagree |
| Demonstrates | Both/all | However |
| Embraces | In addition | In contrast |
| Exemplifies | In common | None/either |
| Illustrates | In comparison | On the other hand |
| Indicates | Shares the view | Unlike |
| Portrays | Similarity |  |
| Reflects | Too |  |
| Reveals |  |  |
| Signifies |  |  |
| Strengthens |  |  |
| Symbolizes |  |  |
| Undermines |  |  |