

Constructing Your Speech with Transitions

Part of preparing a speech is making sure all the ideas flow. In order to have flow in a speech we use transitions. As the speaker you should understand the relationships between the ideas in your speech and connect them with effective transitions. By using transitions, your speech will be smooth rather than choppy, thus your audience will have an easier time following your ideas. The following transitions, as well as many others, can be used within sentences, between paragraphs, and anywhere in the speech where the idea shifts.

Choosing Transitions:

◆ To Add or Show Sequence

also	likewise	and then	and
in addition	not only	moreover	just as important
besides	last	still	next

◆ To Compare

also	likewise
in the same way	similarly

◆ To Contrast

although	nevertheless	notwithstanding
but	on the contrary	even so
in contrast	on the other hand	regardless
in spite of	however	for all that

Continued...

♦To Give Examples or Intensify
an illustration of
for example
to illustrate

for instance
of course
truly

indeed
specifically
in fact

♦To Indicate Place
above
adjacent to
below

elsewhere
farther on
here

to the left
on the other side
opposite to

♦To Indicate Time
after a while
at length
immediately

afterward
earlier
in the meantime

subsequently
simultaneously
until now

♦To Repeat, Summarize, or Conclude
altogether
as has been said
in brief

to summarize
in short
therefore

to put it differently
that is
in simpler terms

♦To Show Cause and Effect
accordingly
because
consequently

otherwise
since
therefore

as a result
thereupon
hence