

# Exercise walk-through

Using transitional elements ■ 5.4

eXercise

## You must be able to

- match a transition to the relationship it signals
- avoid transitions that assert a relationship the sentences do not have
- vary transitions without losing precision
- replace a list of additive transitions with argued connections

## Method — Transitions signal relationships

**Addition:** moreover, in addition. **Contrast:** however, yet. **Cause:** therefore, consequently. **Concession:** granted, admittedly. **Example:** for instance. Each names a relationship, and the wrong one misleads.

## Method — A false signal

“Therefore” between two sentences with no causal link tells the reader something untrue about the argument. It is worse than no transition, because it hides the gap.

## Method — Beyond addition

An essay whose transitions are all “also”, “another”, “furthermore” is a list. Argument needs contrast, cause and concession — the transitions that mark dependence.

## Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

Name the relationship signalled by “however” and by “consequently”.

## Solution 2.1

Method: Transitions signal relationships

### Worked steps

“however”: contrast **B1**; “consequently”: cause or result **B1**.

## Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Explain why a false transition is worse than none.

## Solution 2.2

Method: A false signal

### Worked steps

it asserts a relationship the sentences do not have **B1**, hiding the gap rather than leaving it visible **B1**.

## Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

An essay uses “also” and “another” between every paragraph.

- (a) State what this reveals about the structure.
- (b) State one better transition to use.

## Solution 2.3

### Worked steps

(a) the paragraphs are a list, not a line of reasoning **B1**. (b) any transition marking dependence, e.g. “if that holds, then...” **B1**.

## Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

“Granted” most precisely signals

- A** addition
- B** concession
- C** cause
- D** example

## Solution 3.1

**A** addition

**B** concession 

**C** cause

**D** example

### Worked steps

**B.** it grants a point before qualifying it.

## Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

An essay of purely additive transitions is best described as

**A** a tight argument

**B** a list

**C** a concession

**D** a comparison

## Solution 3.2

Method: Beyond addition

**A** a tight argument

**B** a list 

**C** a concession

**D** a comparison

### Worked steps

**B.** addition alone shows no dependence.

## Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

Two sentences are connected by “therefore” but the second does not follow from the first.

- (a) State the effect on the reader.
- (b) Explain how you would repair the passage.

## Solution 3.3

Method: A false signal

### Worked steps

(a) the reader looks for a causal link and cannot find it, losing trust **B1**. (b) either supply the missing step that makes the inference valid **B1**, or replace “therefore” with a transition that names the real relationship **B1**.