

27 Transitions: choose the logical relationship first

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 13 marks**

KEY WORDS consequence • transition • concession • evidence
• argument

Objective

- Identify contrast, consequence, example and continuation relationships
- Choose a transition that preserves the argument’s logic
- Distinguish logical linking from punctuation requirements

Original public practice; marks below are classroom self-check points, not official criteria.

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

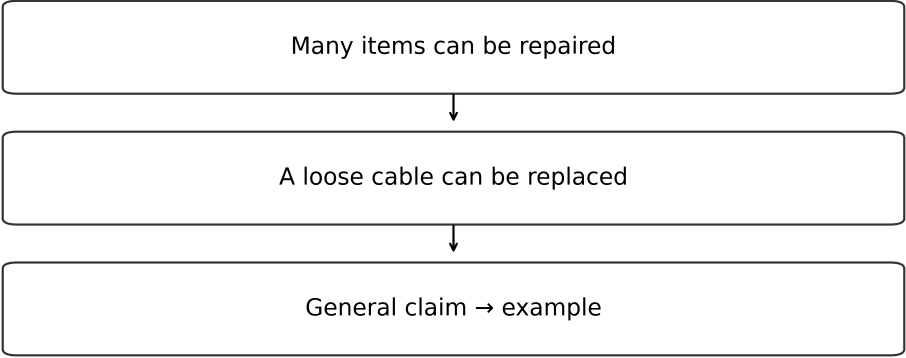
Temporarily ignore the blank and state how the two ideas relate. Does the next sentence add another instance, give a result, present an example, correct an expectation or shift to a different topic? A short label such as contrast is more useful than choosing a familiar connective immediately.

Consequential transitions such as therefore need a supported result. However and nevertheless introduce contrast or concession, while for example introduces an instance of a broader claim. Similarly compares a matching relationship, not merely two sentences mentioning the same noun. Use the meaning of both sides, including negatives.

A concession acknowledges a point while maintaining a different conclusion. “The route is shorter; nevertheless, it takes longer at rush hour” contrasts distance with travel time. In fact can strengthen or correct a statement; it is not a generic substitute for additionally. Test the chosen word by paraphrasing the relationship aloud.

Logical correctness does not remove sentence-boundary rules. However is not a coordinating conjunction joining independent clauses with a comma alone. In a transition question, supplied punctuation may already be fixed; in an editing task, punctuation also needs checking. Keep these two decisions distinct.

A transition names a logical relationship. “The line is shorter. However, it moves more slowly” contrasts size with the expected speed benefit. “Many items can be repaired. For example, a loose cable can be replaced” moves from general statement to instance. Neither relationship is caused merely by sharing a subject.



Original diagram of the worked relationship; read the full wording and qualifications.

Worked example from the native lesson: Original passage: “The new device is smaller than its predecessor. However, it requires more frequent charging.” The second sentence limits an expected benefit; therefore would incorrectly make frequent charging a logical result of small size without evidence. “Several birds use tools. For example, one species uses twigs to retrieve food” moves from a general claim to an instance.

■ Complete original case context

Original passage: The new catalogue can be searched from home. [1] Readers no longer need to travel merely to find a likely shelf number. It still omits several collections. [2] A reader looking for an unlisted item must contact staff. Some entries also use abbreviations. [3] “MS” identifies a manuscript rather than a printed book.

2 Practice

2.1 “The first route is shorter. _____, heavy traffic makes it slower.” Choose: [1]

- **A** For example
- **B** Similarly
- **C** In addition to
- **D** However

2.2 “Many materials can be reused. ____, glass jars can become storage containers.”
Choose: [1]

- **A** For example
- **B** Nevertheless
- **C** Instead
- **D** Consequently

2.3 A contrast can be introduced by _____. [1]

2.4 Therefore works whenever two adjacent sentences share a topic. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

Use the complete original case context in section 1.

3.1 Choose the best relationships at [1], [2], [3], then supply suitable transitions. Explain each link. [3]

3.2 Rewrite the second pair with a contrast between remote access and incomplete coverage, using however and correct sentence boundaries. [3]

3.3 Why would similarly be weak at [3], and why would therefore be weak in “The guide is free. ____, it is only available on weekdays”? [3]