SOME COMMONLY-USED TRANSITIONAL WORDS AND PHRASES
(Clue or signal words)

1. These words are signs of additional thoughts to come. They say, "Here's some more. Add me in."

and also in addition besides too
moreover likewise again in another way
further

2. These words are limiting. They qualify what has just been said. They say, "Now I'm going to give you the other side of the argument."

but on the other hand however on the contrary
nevertheless conversely yet still otherwise

3. These are time words. They tell when something happened.

then presently immediately meanwhile somewhat
now thereupon eventually in those days thereafter
at the same time later after that next

4. These words are signposts. The author is saying, "Here's a clue to the order of my ideas."

next finally first to begin with earlier
in the second place secondly afterwards in conclusion

5. These words signal an illustration. The speaker is going to give you an example or two to demonstrate the point being made.

for instance for example to illustrate

6. These words draw conclusions. The speaker says, "Now I'm going to summarize what I've said."

hence consequently for this reason because of this thus
so therefore as a result accordingly

7. These words signal repetition. They say, "Now I'm going to say it over again, only this time I'll say it in a different way."

briefly in fact in other words indeed that is to say

8. These words compare. They say, "I'm showing you that these things are alike."

similarly likewise similar to by comparison
in the same way in like manner compared to