

PSYCH1140: Paragraph organization

Thursday, 21 February 2022

Paragraph organization

Paragraphs can be organized in different ways. One way to signal the pattern of organization of a paragraph is through the use of transition words. The following are some strategies for paragraph organization and their common transition words. Note that these transition words are not exclusive to each of the organization strategy thought they could provide valuable clue:

- Chronological order / sequence
 - o First/second/third, initially, then, subsequently, another
 - o Recently, now, simultaneously, presently, before, during, earlier, immediately, later, meanwhile, after, afterward
 - o Finally, at last, in conclusion, thus, to conclude, to summarize
- General to specific
 - o For example, for instance, to illustrate, namely, specifically, accordingly
 - o Consequently, hence, so, therefore, thus
- Least important to most important
 - o Clearly, most importantly, the most serious, the foremost
- Problem and solution
 - o But, however, in spite of, nevertheless, nonetheless, notwithstanding, instead, still, yet
- Compare and contrast
 - o Similarly, also, in the same way, just as, so too, likewise
 - o In comparison, however, in contrast, on the contrary, unlike, however, on the one hand... on the other hand...

(For more transition words to use in your own writing, check out They Say / I Say Chapter 8.)

Now, in groups, try to identify the organization of each example paragraph in the exercise sheet, then underline the transition words.

Group exercise sheet

[Group exercise sheet](#)

Originally prepared by: Katerina Faust

Paragraph content

In your groups discuss what a paragraph should contain and look like using the reading we have prepared for class today.

[Group exercise sheet](#)