

# AWA Language Toolkit

Quick Reference for Academic Writing Excellence

## 1) Transition Phrase Banks

### Introducing reasoning

Furthermore, Additionally, Moreover, In particular

### Showing causation

Consequently, As a result, Therefore, Thus

### Acknowledging complexity

While, Although, Admittedly, Granted

### Contrasting ideas

However, Nevertheless, In contrast, Conversely

### Providing examples

For instance, To illustrate, Specifically, Consider

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*Tip: Use transitions sparingly—clarity matters more than variety.*

## 2) Sentence Variety Patterns

### Simple sentences (clarity)

- The argument relies on a single survey.
- The conclusion overgeneralizes from limited data.
- This evidence is insufficient.

### Compound sentences (balance)

- The study reports higher sales, and the author assumes the policy caused the change.
- The claim appears plausible, but the evidence remains incomplete.
- The data may be accurate, yet the interpretation is questionable.

### Complex sentences (precision)

- Because the sample size is small, the results may not represent the broader population.
- Although the proposal could help some groups, it may harm others in unintended ways.
- If the conditions differ across locations, the conclusion may not hold universally.

### Opening variations (rhythm)

- Subject-first: The author assumes the trend will continue.
- Clause-first: If outside factors changed, the conclusion weakens.
- Transition-first: However, the argument ignores a key variable.
- Prepositional: In many situations, the same policy produces different outcomes.

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## 3) Academic Language Alternatives

Colloquial expression	Academic alternative
“sketchy”	problematic
“doesn't add up”	contains logical gaps
“a lot of”	a substantial amount of
“kind of”	somewhat / to a degree
“stuff”	factors / elements
“good/bad”	beneficial / detrimental
“shows”	demonstrates / indicates
“proves”	suggests / supports
“obviously”	notably / evidently
“people”	individuals / stakeholders
“big change”	significant change
“fix”	address / mitigate

## 4) Grammar Priority Checklist for Revision

### HIGH PRIORITY (fix first)

- Subject–verb agreement
- Pronoun clarity
- Sentence completeness (no fragments)
- Comma splices / run-ons

### MEDIUM PRIORITY

- Parallel structure
- Modifier placement (avoid ambiguity)

### LOWER PRIORITY (only if time)

- Split infinitives
- Ending with prepositions

## 5) Quick reminder

Use your 3–4 minute revision window on HIGH PRIORITY errors first.