



Transitions and Cohesiveness in an Essay

What is cohesiveness?

When your essay is cohesive, it basically means that it flows well. The paragraphs are in a logical order and relevant to your argument.

How do I make my essay cohesive?

It is really easy to make your essay cohesive when you have a thesis. If you make sure that the point of each paragraph supports or expands on your thesis, your essay will be cohesive.

How do I transition between two different paragraphs?

To transition between paragraphs, you want to make sure that at the end of each paragraph you sum up your ideas completely. If you don't, the audience will be expecting more support in the next paragraph- which you can do, if that is your intent.

Treat each paragraph like a mini-essay!

You also want to make sure that the first sentence of the next paragraph tells the audience what to expect, so they know that you have moved on. If this topic sentence clearly relates to the thesis, it will make your essay flow.

After the topic sentence, use facts that will support your paragraph's idea and tie them together in a concluding sentence.

Here is what your mini-essay paragraph will look like:

- Topic sentence
- Supporting facts
- Concluding sentence

Here are some Helpful Hints!

- Use some **words that signify transition** when you move on to another idea or example: *also, furthermore, next, although, while, but, because, thus, for example, still, finally, in conclusion, therefore, as a result...*

The author uses his commentary to emphasize the importance of donating to charity. **For example**, he says that people who donate to charities that they support have less guilt.

Therefore, donating to charity can make one happier.

- Using **parallel sentence structures** can help make a set of complicated ideas simpler!

The apple is a **religious symbol** for the young girl. The audience can see that the apple **represents religion** because the girl's situation can be connected to the biblical story.

- If you use **synonyms** while talking about a specific term or phrase, it will add variety and cohesiveness to your paper.

The poet uses his **grief** to emphasize the mental effects that war can have on a man. The **agony** from which he suffered post war caused him to launch into a deep **depression**.

- When beginning a new paragraph, be sure that you are moving to a **new idea or a different example**- that is what your audience will expect!