UMass Dartmouth

Writing and Reading Center

**Signal Words**

Addition Words

These words show that more of the same information is coming.

additionally further moreover

also furthermore not only…but also

and in addition too

besides

Equivalent/Comparison Words

These words show that it does something in addition to what was just said.

as well as equally important similarly

at the same time likewise

Contrast Words

These words show difference.

although instead of regardless

but nevertheless still

conversely notwithstanding though

despite on the contrary unlike

even though on the other hand whereas

however rather than yet

in spite of

Alternative Words

These words give an alternative option.

either…or or otherwise

neither…nor other than

Amplification Words

These words show that the author wants to be sure that you understand the idea, so here's an example.

as like such as

for example specifically to illustrate

for instance

Repetitive Words

These words repeat an important idea.

again simply stated to repeat

in other words that is

Cause and Effect Words

These words explain why something happened or the results of something having happened.

accordingly for this reason so

as a result hence therefore

because if…then thus

consequently since

Qualifying Words

These words indicate conditions or limits.

if unless whenever

providing

Concession Words

These words show that the author agrees to a degree but not fully.

even so granted that of course

Emphasizing Words

These words call the reader's attention to an important idea.

above all indeed more important

Order Words

These words signal the chronology of ideas.

finally last second

first next then

Time Words

These words indicate when occurrences happened.

afterwards earlier now

as soon as formerly presently

at the same time in the meantime previously

before lastly subsequently

concurrently meanwhile ultimately

Summarizing Words

These words signal a review or wrap up of the authors' main point(s).

for these reasons in short to sum up

in brief overall to summarize

in conclusion