



## Conjunctive Adverbs

**Overview:**

Transitional expressions help your writing flow smoothly. One type of transitional expression, the **conjunctive adverb**, also serves to connect **independent clauses** that are **coordinate**. In other words, conjunctive adverbs are used to link together two ideas with similar subjects and emphases while helping your writing to flow.

**Conjunctive adverbs** are usually placed between two **independent clauses** following a **semicolon** and followed by a comma. When conjunctive adverbs occur anywhere else in the sentence, they are usually separated from the rest of the sentence by commas. Occasionally, a conjunctive adverb will begin a sentence, in which case it will be followed by a comma.

Here is a list of conjunctive adverbs:

<p><b>To show addition or another fact</b></p> <p>again also besides finally further furthermore moreover</p>	<p><b>To show contrast or change an idea</b></p> <p>anyway however instead nevertheless otherwise contrarily conversely nonetheless</p>	<p><b>To show time</b></p> <p>meanwhile next then now thereafter</p>	<p><b>To show result</b></p> <p>accordingly consequently hence henceforth therefore thus incidentally subsequently</p>
<p><b>To show a specific case</b></p> <p>namely specifically</p>	<p><b>To show comparison</b></p> <p>likewise similarly</p>	<p><b>To strengthen a point</b></p> <p>indeed</p>	<p><b>To return to your point after conceding</b></p> <p>still nevertheless</p>
<p><b>To recognize a point off your main point</b></p> <p>undoubtedly certainly</p>			

Consider the following examples:

The weather is beautiful today; *therefore*, I think I'll ride my bike to the beach.

The weather is beautiful today. I think, *therefore*, I'll ride my bike to the beach.

The weather is beautiful today. *Therefore*, I think I'll ride my bike to the beach.

**Style Matters:**

A conjunctive adverb serves to join together, and create a smooth transition between, two ideas with similar emphases. Try looking at your own writing and locating two **simple sentences** that might be more effective if joined together by a conjunctive adverb. Remember, however, to avoid overusing them. Always try to use a variety of **sentence types** to keep your writing interesting.