Transitions

Transitions are the signal words that help readers follow the direction of the writer's thought. In a paragraph, a transition should introduce each major detail.

Activity

The following paragraphs use a listing or time order. Fill in the blanks with appropriate transitions from the box above each paragraph. Use every transition once

In addition First of all Finally

1. My blind date with Walter was truly dreadful. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, he was the rudest date I've ever had. Although he'd said he would pick me up at 7, he showed up at 7:35. Then he just sat in the driveway, gunning his engine. When he realized I wasn't going to walk out to the car, he came to the door and shouted through it, "Hey! You ready or what? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, he was just plain dumb. Throughout the evening, I tried everything to get a conversation going. But whenever I mentioned a book, a movie, a sport, or a news event, he would say, "Never heard of it." \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, he was cheap. When we sat down in the restaurant, he handed me the menu and said, "Don't order anything over five dollars." I learned a valuable lesson from my date with Walter - always bring enough money so you can take a bus home.

Then While After When

2. To relieve stress I feel after a day of work and school, I take the following steps. To start with, I get off the bus a mile away from my apartment. I find a brisk walk helps me shake off the dragged-out feeling I often have at the day's end. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I get home, I make myself a cup of tea and lie down on the couch with my feet up. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I lie there, I often look through a catalog and imagine having the money to buy all the nice things I see. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, if I've had an especially hard day, I run a deep bath with plenty of nice-smelling bath oil in it. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a good long soak in the hot water, I find the cares of the day have drifted away.