

Transition Word List

Name: _____

Transition Words**First**

To begin with
To start off
My number one reason
To kick off
For starters
First and foremost

Second

In addition
Secondly
Furthermore
Another example
Another reason why

Third

Last but not least
Furthermore
The last reason
Lastly
The third reason

Conclusion

To summarize
In any case
In short
All in all
As a review
In a nutshell
To sum it all up
You can see why
As you can see
As I have noted
To wrap it all up

Example Essay

Name: _____

Did you know that Brazil is the world's fifth largest country? Brazil is an amazing place because of the beautiful cities, the incredible carnivals, and the extravagant costumes. There is so much to learn about Brazil!

To start with, what makes Brazil such an amazing country is its unique cities. One of the important cities in Brazil is its capital named Brasilia. The author states in Cities to Visit in Brazil, that this city is organized well, full of new buildings, and shaped like an airplane. The Presidential Palace is located in Brasilia and it became the capital of Brazil in 1960. After reading about all that this city has to offer, I am very interested in visiting one day and seeing all of the sites. Another major city in Brazil is Rio de Janeiro. Based on the information in Cities to Visit in Brazil, "This vibrant city, located in southeastern Brazil, is a tourist hotspot." There are beaches, mountains, and even iconic statues. This seems like a place that a lot of people would like to visit because there are so many fun things to do and see. These cities are what help make Brazil so fascinating.

Additionally, Brazil hosts a huge celebration every year called the Brazilian Carnival. According to the text Brazilian Carnival, "Carnival celebrations started in the 1830s." This huge party came from immigrants that celebrated before Lent. It then tuned into parties and dancing on the street! It's amazing that a tradition that started so long ago is still being celebrated today. This party must be a significant part of this country's culture. In paragraph 4 of Brazilian Carnival, it says that the music is an important part of Carnival. They blast the music of Brazil all over the streets. There is even a competition that people can enter and share their music. That is much different than any carnival I have ever been to! Brazilian Carnival is a great party that brings people together in Brazil.

Last but not least, people in Brazil wear decorative costumes. Part of Carnival is that the people dress up. The passage Brazilian Carnival states that they wear colorful costumes that are handmade and very bright. Some of the eye-catching costumes have feathers on them and others represent certain schools. It is obvious that this event is something that the people take pride in because they put a lot of time and effort into this celebration. After reading Brazilian Carnival, I also learned that "Carnival has the ability to merge cultures, even if only for one week out of the year, and brings people together." The streets are always packed full of people from all around the world. They all share a love for Brazilian food and music. This may be one of the only times that different cultures come together and enjoy each other's company! This just shows how much the people enjoy being a part of this party. It is a chance for everyone to be together and have fun. These costumes are an exciting part of Carnival celebration.

To wrap it all up, the cities, the Carnival, and costumes are what make Brazil such a great place! I think everyone should have the chance to visit this special country at least one time in their life. It's a country with great history and lots of excitement!

Practice Essay

Name: _____

Did you know that Earth has several different natural phenomena? The study of these natural occurrences is considered Earth Science! Earth Science is interesting to learn about because it has to do with Pangaea, earthquakes, and volcanoes. Knowing about Earth Science can help scientists better predict and understand them.

_____, scientists study Earth Science to better understand Pangaea. According to Pangaea: The Supercontinent, “Millions of years ago, the Earth didn’t have seven continents, instead Earth had one massive supercontinent which scientists called Pangaea.” This name came from Greek words meaning “whole earth.” Wow! This tells me that many years ago, all the continents were together creating one huge landmass! This means that at one time there were no oceans in between the continents. This probably made travel a lot easier. As stated in Pangaea: The Supercontinent, “Approximately 200 million years ago, it’s believed that the supercontinent of Pangaea started to break up.” This was caused by the shifting of tectonic plates. This makes me think of puzzle pieces being torn apart. This is how oceans came in between our continents and what we know as Earth today. By knowing about this continental shift, scientists predict that this process will continue to happen, and our continents will become further apart as years go by.

_____, scientists study Earth Science to learn more about earthquakes. As stated in Sudden Dangers, “An earthquake, also known as a tremor, is the shaking of Earth’s surface caused by the shifting of tectonic plates and then rubbing together resulting in a sudden release of energy.” About 500,000 of these happen each year, but only 100,000 are actually felt from the friction that makes the Earth’s surface shift back and forth. Obviously, it’s how much friction caused by Earth’s tectonic plates that determines how severe the earthquake will be. If there is a lot of friction, the earthquake will be severe. But if there is only a small amount of friction, then people won’t even be able to feel the earthquake! Also, when earthquakes are severe, they can cause a lot of damage. Earthquakes are very destructive and can cause a lot of damage very quickly, says the author of Sudden Dangers. When an earthquake is severe, it can collapse homes, destroy towns, and even take people’s lives, states the same text. This is very scary because scientists who study earthquakes, seismologists, can’t predict when an earthquake will happen or how severe it will be. For this reason, it’s very important that scientists continue to study Earth Science to find a solution to this deadly problem.

_____, scientists study Earth Science to discover more about volcanoes. A volcano is a mountain or hill that allows trapped heat from the Earth’s core to escape in an eruption of lava says Sudden Dangers. According to the same source, “They erupt when tectonic plates on Earth’s crust move.” When I think of a volcano, I think of very hot lava flowing down a mountain killing everything in its path. I know that lava moves slowly, but it still can cause lots of devastation to anything in its way! An example of a dangerous volcano was the April 2015 Calbuco Volcano in the southern part of Chile, states Sudden Dangers. As stated in the same text, the ash from this volcano was so incredibly thick that it caused roofs of homes to cave in, and 6,000 people were told to evacuate to somewhere else. I’m sure that it was sad for all those people affected by this volcano, and it cost a lot of money to repair all the damages to their homes. Therefore, scientists are trying their best to study as much as they can about Earth Science to help people be better prepared for such a horrific event.

_____, it is very interesting to learn about Earth Science. There are many aspects to Earth Science that are worth studying such as Pangaea, earthquakes, and volcanoes. Scientists must continue to study Earth Science to learn more about how the shifting of Earth’s tectonic plates affects Earth and the people living in these areas.