Paragraph Coherence: Transition Words and Phrases

1. Go to http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/transitions.html and read the article there about transitions and transition use.
2. If you have any questions, now is a good time to STOP and see an instructor or a tutor. Before you go, write your questions below:

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Once you are ready to continue, go on to #3.

3. Read each paragraph, and notice how the sentences all seem like separate ideas. Then, on a separate sheet of paper, correct the choppiness in these passages by rewriting the paragraphs and adding appropriate transitional devices to show a connection between the sentences. Paragraphs drawn from University of Nebraska at Omaha writing center Web site.

Paragraph #1

IQ tests are given in a classroom atmosphere. They are administered by the regular teachers. The children don't know they are taking IQ tests. Often the parents are not aware their children are taking the tests. They are not informed of the scores, either.

Paragraph #2

In high school I was a good student. I studied hard. I took lots of difficult subjects like chemistry, physics, and English. I got As. My mother just wanted me to be popular. She thought popularity was the key to success. She wanted me to be a cheerleader. She wanted me to go out with football players. She didn't want me to be an intellectual.
Riverside Community College
Writing and Reading Center
Direct learning Activity 60.24

Name: ____________________________________________

Date: ____________________________________________

4. Before reviewing your answers with an instructor or tutor, use the space below to write any questions you still have about transition use:

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

5. Review your answers with an instructor or tutor in the WRC. Have that person sign and date this sheet.

________________________________________________________________________________________

Instructor/Tutor signature

Date

6. Return this completed, signed sheet to your instructor.