PART 1: Using Transitional Words to Clearly Connect Ideas from Sentence to Sentence

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the transitional word or phrase that best links the ideas in the sentences together. Use each transition only once. There may be more transitions in the word bank than what is actually needed. Adhere to proper capitalization as you write the transition in the blank.

Example:

TRANSITIONAL WORD BANK

To this day As a result For this reason And
Despite For example And yet

Sophie was bitten by a black widow when she was a child. 1-As a result, she spent several days recovering in the hospital. 2-To this day, she has a red scar on her leg where the spider bit her, 3-and she is still afraid of spiders. 3-For this reason, every year Sophie gets her house sprayed by an exterminator.

A.

TRANSITIONAL WORD BANK

Therefore But In Fact For Instance Moreover So that
Also Since Even though Rather

Though eating disorders produce physical damage to the body, they are not 1-__________ physical illnesses. 2-__________, they are mental issues that develop more frequently among females but do affect the male population as well. Anorexia nervosa, one of the most common eating disorders, is characterized by extremely low body weight and a distorted self
body image accompanied by an intense fear of gaining weight. Extreme exercising is commonly associated with anorexia and is believed to be its direct consequence. Anorexics may allow themselves anywhere from 100 to 1000 calories a day. It is not food that turns them off the concern with gaining weight. Food, in fact, may be on their mind constantly. There are several cases where people suffering from anorexia nervosa developed a severe obsession for cooking they never tasted anything of what they prepared. Anorexia nervosa is considered to be a serious mental health disorder which is characterized by an exaggerated concern with the appearance of the body. It can be considered a disorder of beauty the sufferer believes, despite all the evidence to the contrary, that he or she is too fat and, unattractive. The anorexic wishes to be thinner, and the idea of being overweight appears to be a nightmare.

B.

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Have you ever wondered how those big ocean storms called hurricanes or typhoons get their names? Who decides to name a hurricane “Ann” or “Barbara” or “Bill”? The way hurricanes and typhoons are named has changed over the years. At first, whether forecasters described them by their positions in degrees of latitude or longitude. a typhoon used to be called “21.20 north, 157, 52 west”. this method was confusing because storms don’t stay in the same place; people developed other ways to identify them. In the 60s, a weather forecaster in Australia used to name typhoons after politicians whom he disliked. For example, he could make weather forecasts such as “Typhoon Smith is on a very destructive path.” this caused criticism among the public, this trend continued to exist for quite a long time. Later, during World War I, women’s names began to be used like “Hurricane Betsy” or “Typhoon Alice”. during World War II, men’s names became popular; a storm could be named “Fred” or “George”. In short, we can say that the way hurricanes and typhoons are named has changed over the years and will undoubtedly change again.

**PART 2: Using Transitional Words Clearly Connect Ideas Between Paragraphs in an Essay**
Directions: Read the paragraphs below and explain how the author connects the first paragraph to the one that follows. Highlight or box connecting ideas and underline transition words.

Example:

In *Ruby the Copycat* by Peggy Rathman, Ruby is a new student at school who wants to fit in so badly that she tries to make friends with a classmate named Angela by copying everything Angela does. Miss Hart is Ruby’s teacher. From the very beginning Miss Hart notices Ruby needs help fitting in and starts giving her support. As a character Miss Hart is very important because of the support she shows Ruby.

One place in this book when Miss Hart proves she is supportive of Ruby is after Ruby recites a poem that is just like Angela’s poem. Angela reads her poem from her paper first and Ruby goes next. The text says, “What a coincidence,” murmured Miss Hart.” The illustration shows Miss Hart simply putting her head in her hand. Undoubtedly, this proves that Miss Hart is supportive because she could have embarrassed Ruby in front of the rest of the class by asking to see the poem on her paper. Instead Miss Hart doesn’t ask for the poem, knowing that Ruby doesn’t have it, so that the rest of the class will not make fun of her.

**How does the author CONNECT these two paragraphs?**

The connecting idea is “support.”

The transition words are “one place in this book.”

Explanation: In the last sentence of the first paragraph, the author says that Miss Hart shows that she supports Ruby. In the following paragraph, the author uses the transitional words “one place in this book” in order to introduce evidence that Miss Hart is “supportive of Ruby.”

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A.

The first boy, Jack, believes that a beast truly does exist. He is afraid and admits it; however, he deals with his fear with aggressive violence. He chooses to hunt for the beast, arm himself with a spear, and practice killing it: “We’re strong—we hunt! If there’s a beast, we’ll hunt it down! We’ll close in and beat and beat and beat—!”(91). He also uses the fear of the beast to control and manipulate the other children. Because they fear the beast, they are more likely to listen to Jack and follow his orders. Furthermore, Jack fears Ralph’s power over the group and Piggy’s rational thought. This is because he knows that both directly conflict with his thirst for absolute power. He responds to these fears in his familiar, violent way. He physically and verbally abuses Piggy, and he argues with Ralph and questions his authority to such an extent that he ends up leaving the group. Jack eventually consolidates his power by forcing the last members of Ralph’s group into his tribe and ordering a hunt for Ralph.

Next, the boys’ leader, Ralph, has his own fears. However, he deals with them
differently than Jack does. At first he does not fear the beast; rather, he fears that the boys will never be rescued due to the group’s inability to keep a rescue fire lit. Ralph’s fear remains valid through most of the book, yet his efforts to convey the urgency of the fire to the group are thwarted by Jack. At one point, Ralph exclaims, “I’m chief…There’s no signal showing. There may be a ship out there. Are you all off your rockers?”(108). This quote shows how he continuously tries to stress the fire and his fear of not being rescued. Ralph also begins to fear the other boys. After Simon dies, he realizes just what the boys are capable of doing, especially under Jack’s influence. He tries to conquer this fear by looking to Piggy for rationalization and for guidance as to how best lead the island.

How does the author CONNECT these two paragraphs?

The connecting idea is

The transition words are

Explanation:

B.

Throughout the Cam Jansen mystery series, Cam relies on her sidekick, Eric, to help her find clues and crack open mysteries. Later on in the story, Eric is with Cam when he pets the imposter dog, Cloudy’s, back. He looks at his hand. There were streaks on it, too. “It’s these spots,” Eric said. “They were put on by shoe polish or something. I’ll bet Cloudy is really all white like a cloud. These spots were probably put on so the man with the red hair could switch the two dogs.” As Cam’s loyal friend, Eric often connects the trail of clues (and helps Cam to abandon red herrings). Instead of getting frustrated, Cam knows to rely on Eric when it seems like the trail of clues has dried up. This proves that Cam is a character who sees that two minds are always smarter than one when trying to solve a mystery.

An additional place in the story when Cam is selfless and resourceful is when she takes a risk to rescue Poochie and convinces Eric’s twin sisters, Donna and Diane, to help her carry out her plan. Cam says, “We have to get the man away from his desk. If we do that, we can switch the dogs. If Donna taps on one of the closed windows, the man will run over to see who’s there. Before he can open the window, Diane can tap on another window. The man will run to the other window. If you two take turns tapping on windows, the man will be busy running from one window to the other. And while he’s running, I’ll switch the dogs.” She had to be so brave to go into the suspect’s house to save Poochie from demise if the ransom was not paid. This shows that Cam not only believes in herself, but she’s brave, selfless, and resourceful as she carries out the plan with the help of Eric’s twin sisters.

How does the author CONNECT these two paragraphs?
Sometimes we let our failures get us down and lose confidence in ourselves, which can make us turn away from challenges. Lupe, the main character in The Marble Champ, by Gary Soto, is not naturally good at sports but is amazing at things involving her mind. Even though she is a straight A student with lots of awards, she is angry at herself for not being good at sports. Lupe proves to herself that she is a champion in all areas of her life, brains and athletics. Lupe is an important character because she shows that instead of letting your weaknesses stand in your way, with hard work and determination, you can overcome your weaknesses and achieve your dreams.

One example that shows Lupe is determined to not let lack of athletic skill stand in her way is learning to ride a bike. The narrator says, “It wasn’t until last year, when she was eleven years old, that she learned how to ride a bike. And even then she had to use training wheels.” Plus, Lupe only goes roller skating “when her father held her hand.” It had to be embarrassing to be that old using training wheels, but Lupe uses those training wheels and holds her father’s hand too because that is what she needs in order to learn. This example of asking for help instead of giving up, even when it may look embarrassing, proves that Lupe doesn’t let her weaknesses stand in her way.