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RETURN TO PREVIOUS PAGE
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## SIGNAL WORDS\*

### 1. Continuation Signals (*Warning-there are more ideas to come.*)

and	also	another
again	and finally	first of all
a final reason	furthermore	in addition
last of all	likewise	more
moreover	next	one reason
other	secondly	similarly
too	with	

### 2. Change-of-Direction Signals (*Watch out-we're doubling back.*)

although	but	conversely
despite	different from	even though
however	in contrast	instead of
in spite of	nevertheless	otherwise
the opposite	on the contrary	on the other hand
rather	still	yet
while	though	

### 3. Sequence Signals (*There is an order to these ideas.*)

first, second, third	A, B, C
in the first place	for one thing
then	next
before	now
after	while
into ( <i>far into the night</i> )	until
last	during
since	always
o'clock	on time
later	earlier

### 4. Time Signals (*When is it happening?*)

when	immediately	now
lately	already	little by little
at the same time	final	after awhile
once	during	

### 5. Illustration Signals (*Here's what that principle means in reality.*)

for example	specifically
for instance	to illustrate

such as  
in the same way as

much like  
similar to

## 6. Emphasis Signals (*This is important.*)

a major development  
a significant factor  
a primary concern  
a key feature  
a major event  
a vital force  
a central issue  
a distinctive quality  
above all  
by the way  
especially important  
especially relevant  
especially valuable  
important to note

it all boils down to  
most of all  
most noteworthy  
more than anything else  
of course  
pay particular attention to  
remember that  
should be noted  
the most substantial issue  
the main value  
the basic concept  
the crux of the matter  
the chief outcome  
the principal item

## 7. Cause, Condition, or Result Signals (*Condition or modification is coming up.*)

because  
for  
while  
that  
as  
so that  
yet  
resulting from

if  
from  
then  
until  
whether  
therefore  
thus  
consequently

of  
so  
but  
since  
in order that  
unless  
due to  
without

## 8. Spatial Signals (*This answers the "where" question.*)

between  
here  
right  
near  
middle  
east  
south  
under  
across  
toward

below  
outside  
over  
in  
next to  
on  
there  
these  
this  
west

about  
around  
away  
into  
beyond  
opposite  
inside  
out  
adjacent  
by

left  
close to  
side  
beside  
north  
over  
in front of  
behind  
above  
upon

alongside  
far  
near

## 9. Comparison-Contrast Signals (*We will now compare idea A with idea B.*)

and  
too  
either  
more than  
even  
much as  
but

or  
best  
less  
same  
then  
like  
different from

also  
most  
less than  
better  
half  
analogous to  
still

yet  
opposite  
though

however  
rather

although  
while

### **10. Conclusion Signals (*This ends the discussion and may have special importance.*)**

as a result  
from this we see  
hence

consequently  
in conclusion  
last of all

finally  
in summary  
therefore

### **11. Fuzz Signals (*Idea is not exact, or author is not positive and wishes to qualify a statement.*)**

almost  
maybe  
except  
nearly  
seems like  
sort of

if  
could  
should  
might  
was reported  
probably

looks like  
some  
alleged  
reputed  
purported

### **12. Nonword Emphasis Signals**

exclamation point (!)

underline

*italics*

**bold type**

subheads, like *The Conclusion*

indentation of paragraph

graphic illustrations

numbered points (1, 2, 3)

very short sentence: *Stop war.*

"quotation marks"

\* Fry, E. B., Kress, J. E., & Fountoukidis, D.L. (1993). *The reading teacher's book of lists, 3rd edition*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, pp.185-187. By permission. © 1993 by Prentice Hall.

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RETURN TO PREVIOUS PAGE