

Transition Words in Narrative Writing

Use transition words or phrases from the boxes to fill in the blanks in the paragraphs.

first of all overhead instantly long ago as a result now in the distance rather

Sample Answers

Celeste sat quietly in the cold night air, all her senses aware of her surroundings.

Overhead, the full moon lit the night sky like a lantern, both illuminating and casting shadows on the snowy landscape beneath it. In the distance, a gray wolf howled, calling to Celeste across the snowy meadow from the slopes of the snow-capped mountains.

Long ago, Celeste's ancestors had trekked to this same spot. They had forged a relationship with the wolves and the mountains and the moon. Now, it was Celeste's turn to take up the responsibility of those who had come before her. Raising her eyes to the moon and her arms to the mountains, she returned the wolves' call.

little by little initially eventually simultaneously quickly meanwhile but now once

Sample Answers

Li Xun felt his racing heart catch in his throat, his breathing becoming faster. He felt lightheaded, even dizzy, as he looked down from the top of the platform attached to the bridge over the canyon. Initially, when his friends had suggested bungee-jumping from the bridge, he'd thought it sounded like great fun, a real adventure! But now, he was definitely having second thoughts. Little by little, he inched forward on the platform, keenly aware that everyone was watching him. Eventually, determined not to let his fear keep him from taking the plunge, Li Xun closed his eyes and tilted his body forward into the open space.

Choose at least two transition words or phrases from the boxes to write a short narrative paragraph that logically connects the sentences. Underline or highlight the transition words or phrases you used. **Sample Response**

Despite her aching muscles and nearly overwhelming fatigue, Nina had kept running, lost in the rhythm of her sneakered feet striking the pavement. **But now**, even with the finish line in sight, she doubted her ability to complete the last quarter mile of the race. **Quickly**, she pushed the doubt from her mind and refused to let another runner pass.