

**TRANSITIONAL SIGNALS ENCOUNTERED IN THE DISCUSSION TEXTS WRITTEN  
BY THE 5<sup>th</sup> SEMESTER STUDENTS OF THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OF WIDYA  
MANDALA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY SURABAYA**



Ayu Raja Putri

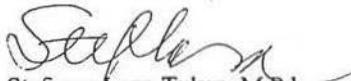
1213007028

English Department  
Faculty of Teacher Training and Education  
Widya Mandala Catholic University  
Surabaya

## APPROVAL SHEET

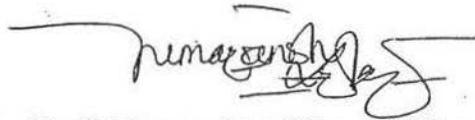
(1)

This thesis entitled "Transitional Signals Encountered in Discussion Text Written by the 5<sup>th</sup> Semester Students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya" prepared and submitted by Ayu Raja Putri, has been approved and accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisors.



Drs. Stefanus Laga Tukan, M.Pd.

First Advisor



Drs. B. Himawan Setyo Wibowo, M.Hum.

Second Advisor

APPROVAL SHEET (2)

This thesis has been examined by the Committee of Oral Examination with the grade of \_\_\_\_\_ on January 30, 2012.



Dr. V. Luluk Prijambodo, M.Pd.  
Chairperson



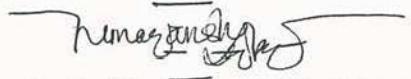
Dra. M.N. Siti Mina Tamah, Ph.D.  
Secretary



Y.G Harto Pramono, Ph.D.  
Member



Drs. Stefanus Laga Tukan, M.Pd.  
Member/Advisor I



Drs. Basilius Himawan S.W., M.Hum  
Member/Advisor II



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Nama Mahasiswa : ATU RAJA PUTRI

Nomor Pokok : 1213007028

Program Studi : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris – Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa & Seni

Fakultas : Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan

Perguruan Tinggi : Universitas Katolik Widya Mandala Surabaya

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

First of all, the writer would like to thank God for providing power and strength throughout her study, especially during the process of doing the study and writing this report (thesis).

She also would like to express her deepest gratitude to:

1. Drs. Stefanus Laga Tukan, M.Pd., her first advisor, and Drs. B. Himawan Setyo Wibowo, M.Hum., her second advisor, for their great help, support, guidance, and suggestions to the writer especially in the process of writing this thesis.
2. All the lecturers of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya for their guidance and supports during her study.

3. Hady Sutris Winarlim, M.Sc., the Head of English Education Study Program, who has given support and encouragement during her study.
4. The writer's beloved family who encouraged and gave moral support in writing this thesis.
5. The writer's best friends, Fransiska Lusiana Harjanto S.Pd. and Anindita Dewanti S.Pd., who always supported, encouraged, and prayed for the writer in writing this thesis.

6. All people whose names have not been mentioned for their assistance, supports, belief, and prayers.

Without all of the above people's kind help, the writer would have not been able to finish her study and write this report the way it should be.

Surabaya, 17 January 2012

The Writer

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## ABSTRACT

Putri, Ayu Raja. 2011. Transitional Signals Encountered in Discussion Text Written by the 5<sup>th</sup> Semester Students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya. S-1 Thesis. English Department Faculty of Teacher Training and Education of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya.

Advisors: Drs. Stefanus Laga Tukan, M.Pd.

Drs. B. Himawan Setyo Wibowo, M.Hum.

Keywords: discussion texts, transitional signals

Wiener (1981) states that transitional signals are connectors between statements or ideas in paragraphs. This study focuses on the use transitional signals in discussion texts. It is qualitative in nature. The writer analyzed 18 discussion texts written by the 5<sup>th</sup> semester students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Surabaya Catholic University of the academic year of 2008/2009 and found:

1. 75 transitional signals and 8 types of transitional signals encountered in the discussion texts.
2. The transitional signals most frequently used is *because* which appears 48 times (21,23%).
3. The type of transitional signals are used in the discussion texts are addition, conclusion, contrast, comparison, emphasis, example, reason/premise, and result.
4. The type of transitional signals which is most frequently used in the texts analyzed is reason/premise which appears 62 times (27,07%) followed by contrast which appears 47 times (20,52%) and the rest signals appear between 4,80% and 15,72%.
5. The type of transitional signals most frequently used in arguments for the issue in discussion texts is reason/premise which appears 23 times (21,49%)

followed by conclusion and result signals which appear 8 times (1,86%) and the rest signals appear between 0,93% and 5,60%.

6. The type of transitional signals most frequently used in arguments against the issue is reason/premise, it appears 25 times (23,80%) followed by contrast which appears 15 times (14,28%) and the rest signals appear between 0,95% and 7,61%.
7. The transitional signals which is mostly used as a bridge between arguments for and arguments against the issue is *On the other hand*. It appears 3 times (42,85%) followed by *but*, *although*, *for some other people*, *they think that...*, *other against those arguments...* which appear 1 time (14,28%).

Based on the findings above, the writer concludes that from 18 discussion essay, there are only 7 discussion essay that used transitional signals as a bridge between the arguments for and the arguments against the issue and the signals are *On the other hand*, *But*, *Although*, *For some other people think...*, *Others against those arguments*. In line with these findings, some suggestions are given:

1. The lecturers of Writing IV teach various types of transitional signals in discussion text and how to use them in organizing their ideas.
2. The fifth semester students who are taking Writing IV should read more the example of discussion texts and more creative in using transitional signals.
3. A further study about transitional signals, which is particularly concerned with the appropriateness of transitional signals in discussion texts.