



Name _____ Date _____

Identifying Transitions

Directions:

- Read each example below. Underline or highlight the transition sentence or sentences that bridge the lead to the thesis.
- Circle the specific transition word that signals the shift.

❶ I made a decision on the first day of fifth grade when we clustered our desks into the seating arrangement described by our teacher. I would make a new friend: Linda was the target, and she's still one of my closest friends, even years later. Although I didn't know it at the time, she possessed important qualities that cemented our friendship. The three most important qualities of friends are loyalty, honesty and trustworthiness.

❷ "We need to find a helicopter that can airlift us out of here," said Skye. "And keep your stupid wings to yourself!" She was talking to Batty, who, as always, was wearing her beloved orange-and-black butterfly wings.

"They're not stupid," said Batty.

"Woof," said Hound from his place among the boxes and suitcases in the very back of the car. He took Batty's side in every discussion. (Birdsall, 2005)

And well Hound should take sides; any quality friend must. True friendship has necessary qualities. The three most important qualities of friends are loyalty, honesty and trustworthiness.

❸ As Aristotle said, "What is a friend? A single soul dwelling in two bodies." Like Aristotle's statement suggests, for a single soul to dwell in two bodies, valued qualities of a friend must be respected by both. There are several qualities of friendship, but the three most important qualities of friends are loyalty, honesty and trustworthiness.

❹ The famed Nurses' Health Study from Harvard Medical School was so significant, the researchers concluded that not having close friends was as detrimental to your health as *smoking* or carrying extra weight (Kaplan, 2002). Truly, friendship has a physical impact on us, so it's critical to develop close friends. Examining valued traits of quality friends may help us keep them closer. The three most important qualities of friends are loyalty, honesty and trustworthiness.