

Signposting means using phrases and words to guide the reader through the content of your essay/IRR.

There are two main types of signposting:

introductions, conclusions and outlining main arguments/ the direction of the argument in paragraphs/opening phrases.

connecting words help guide the reader through the line of reasoning by linking ideas, sentences and paragraphs.



* *To add more ideas:* again, furthermore, in addition, moreover
* *To compare or contrast ideas:* alternatively, conversely, whereas
* *To prove something:* for this reason, as a result, because
* *To show exceptions:* however, nevertheless, yet, in spite of
* *To repeat or refer back to something:* as has been mentioned/noted…/As previously discussed
* *To emphasise something:* definitely, obviously, inevitably, undeniably
* *To give an example:* for instance, in this case, in particular, notably
* *To show the order of things:* previously, following this, initially, subsequently, finally

* This literature review will [first] outline/examine/address/argue/demonstrate/focus on … and will [then] ascertain/establish/clarify/show/judge/prove … Next, it closely examines ... in relation to ... Finally, it focuses on ... and how this affects ...
* To understand the role of …, this review provides a discussion of …
* This review of the literature seeks to investigate/evaluate/illustrate/discuss the impact of ... in relation to ... The aim of this study is to … / The purpose of this essay is to … /This essay argues that … The major issue that needs to be addressed is … /The main questions addressed in this paper are …
* This literature review critically examines …



One aspect which illustrates … can be identified as …

The current debate about ... identifies an interesting viewpoint on ...

The first/next/final section provides a general discussion of …

Having established ..., this review will now/next consider … Building on from the idea that ..., this section illustrates that ...

To further understand the role of ... this section explores the idea that ... Another line of thought on ... demonstrates that ...

In addition to/As well as x, y must be/should be/needs to be established …

x is one/an important/the key issue that has to be considered. Another/A second/ of equal importance is …

 This idea/theory had been extended/developed by….

However, another angle on this debate suggests that ...

In contrast to evidence which presents the view that... an alternative perspective illustrates that ...

However, not all research shows that... Some evidence agrees that ...

This conflicts/contrasts with/is contrary to the view held by ..., who argues that …

The research highlights that … It is clear that …

The strength of such an approach is that …



In conclusion, … / To summarise, … / As has been shown …

 … From the above, it is clear that …

Several conclusions emerge from this analysis … The evidence presented highlights that …

This review focussed on three factors affecting … It has been established that …

Adapted by J Galusha from **Queen’s University Belfast http://www.qub.ie/directorates/sgc/learning/FileStore/Filetoupload,628191,en.pdf**