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 (far into the night)
   - until
   - last
   - during
   - since
   - always
   - o’clock
   - on time
   - later
   - earlier
4. Time Signals (*When is it happening?*)

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

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

- for example
- for instance
- such as
- in the same way as
- specifically
- to illustrate
- 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 principle item
7. Cause, Condition, or Result Signals *(Condition or modification is coming up.)*

because if of
for from so
while then but
that until since
as whether in order that
so that therefore unless
yet thus due to
resulting from consequently without

8. Spatial Signals *(This answers the “where” question.)*

between below about left alongside
here outside around close to far
right over away side near
near in into beside
middle next to beyond north
east on opposite over
south there inside in front of
under these out behind
across this adjacent above
toward west by upon
9. Comparison-Contrast Signals *(We will now compare idea A with idea B.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>and</th>
<th>or</th>
<th>also</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>too</td>
<td>best</td>
<td>most</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>either</td>
<td>less</td>
<td>less than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more than</td>
<td>same</td>
<td>better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>even</td>
<td>then</td>
<td>half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>much as</td>
<td>like</td>
<td>analogous to</td>
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<tr>
<td>but</td>
<td>different from</td>
<td>still</td>
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<tr>
<td>yet</td>
<td>however</td>
<td>although</td>
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<tr>
<td>opposite</td>
<td>rather</td>
<td>while</td>
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<tr>
<td>though</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>as a result</th>
<th>consequently</th>
<th>finally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>from this we see</td>
<td>in conclusion</td>
<td>in summary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hence</td>
<td>last of all</td>
<td>therefore</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>almost</th>
<th>if</th>
<th>looks like</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>maybe</td>
<td>could</td>
<td>some</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>except</td>
<td>should</td>
<td>alleged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nearly</td>
<td>might</td>
<td>reputed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seems like</td>
<td>was reported</td>
<td>purported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sort of</td>
<td>probably</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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”

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