



California Polytechnic State University
Week of Welcome Orientation Program
Quotes of Transition

Introduction: Many people find comfort in the words of others. Not only do they often have a special meaning behind them, but they remind us that everyone goes through similar struggles in life.

Instructions: Below are some famous quotes on the topic of transition. Read each one and answer the following questions on a piece of paper.

No story is the same to us after a lapse of time; or rather we who read it are no longer the same interpreters.

George Eliot

"Who are you?" said the Caterpillar....

"I—I hardly know, Sir, just at the present," Alice replied rather shyly, "at least I know who I was when I got up this morning, but I think I must have changed several times since then."

Lewis Carroll

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

The chief object of education is not to learn things, but to unlearn things.

G. K. Chesterton

There is a time for departure, even when there's no certain place to go.

Tennessee Williams

One must be thrust out of a finished cycle in life, and...part with one's faith, one's love, when one would rather renew the faith and recreate the passion.

Anais Nin

Observe constantly that all things take place by change, and accustom thyself to consider that the nature of the universe loves nothing so much as to change the things which are.

Marcus Aurelius

Everybody wants to BE somebody; nobody wants to grow.

Goethe

The important thing is this: to be able at any moment to sacrifice what we are for what we could become.

Charles DuBos

Every beginning is a consequence—every beginning ends something.
Paul Valery

Only in growth, reform, and change (paradoxically enough) is true security to be found.
Anne Morrow Lindbergh

And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from.
T. S. Eliot

*You make what seems a simple choice: Choose a man or a job or a neighborhood—
and what you have chosen is not a man or a job or a neighborhood, but a life.*
Jessamyn West

Great is the art of beginning, but greater the art of ending.
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Age seldom arrives smoothly or quickly. It's more often a succession of jerks.
Jean Rhys

*It's not so much that we're afraid of change or so in love with the old ways, but it's
that place in between that we fear.... It's like being in between trapezes. It's Linus
when his blanket is in the dryer. There's nothing to hold on to.*
Marilyn Ferguson

Processing: Spend some time reflecting on the quotes that stand out to you the most, keeping the following in mind:

- What are the quotes saying to you about the transition you went through as a new student?
- How do you feel after reading them?
- What circumstances in your life come to mind?
- Why should Orientation Leaders remember what their transition to college life was like?
- How does this relate to the new role you are undertaking?