

RW question 13

Iraqi artist Nazik Al-Malaika, celebrated as the first Arabic poet to write in free verse, didn't reject traditional forms entirely; her poem "Elegy for a Woman of No Importance" consists of two ten-line stanzas and a standard number of syllables. Even in this superficially traditional work, _____ Al-Malaika was breaking new ground by memorializing an anonymous woman rather than a famous man.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- A) in fact,
- B) though,
- C) therefore,
- D) moreover,

Key	B
Domain	Expression of Ideas
Skill	Transitions

Key Explanation: **Choice B** is the best answer. The passage's first sentence establishes that although Al-Malaika is famous for her free verse poetry, she still made some use of traditional poetic forms, as in her work "Elegy for a Woman of No Importance." The passage's last sentence qualifies the point made in the passage's first sentence by indicating that even when Al-M used traditional forms, as in "Elegy," she challenged tradition, in this case by making an "anonymous woman rather than a famous man" the subject of the poem. "Though" is the best transition for the passage's last sentence because, along with "even," it signals that Al-Malaika subverted traditional poetic forms even when she used them by, in this case, using a nontraditional subject for an elegy.

Distractor Explanations: **Choice A** is incorrect because "in fact" illogically signals that the passage's last sentence stresses or amplifies the truth of the assertion made in the passage's first sentence. **Choice C** is incorrect because "therefore" illogically signals that the passage's last sentence describes a consequence arising from the assertion made in the passage's first sentence. **Choice D** is incorrect because "moreover" illogically signals that the passage's last sentence merely offers additional information about the assertion made in the passage's first sentence.