

Basics of Conjunctions

Conjunctions are parts of speech that connect words, phrases, clauses, or sentences.

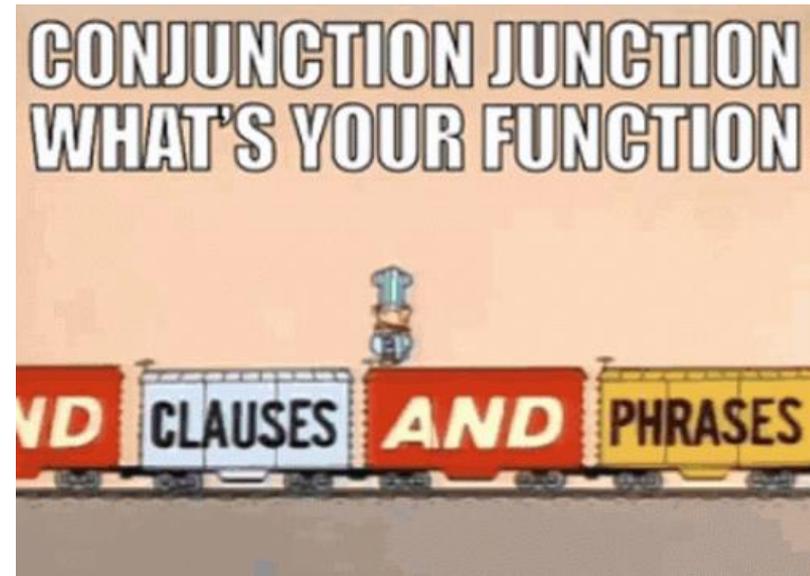
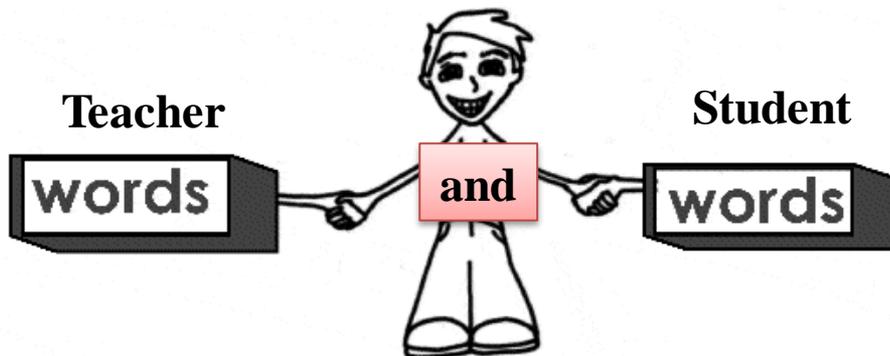
There are three kinds of conjunctions:

coordinating,

paired,

and subordinating.

And, But, Although, If, Until, While, Because etc.



Coordinating Conjunctions

Coordinating conjunctions connect words or phrases that serve the same grammatical purpose in a sentence.

There are seven main coordinating conjunctions in English, which form the acronym **FANBOYS**:



"For" is rarely used as a conjunction in modern English.

Coordinating Conjunctions

F: for: The teachers were frustrated, **for** the school had cut funding for all enrichment programs.

A: and: In this course, I will write a literature review, a case study, **and** a final paper.

N: nor: The students did not complete their homework, **nor** did they pass the test.

B: but: The study is several years old **but** still valuable to this study.

O: or: At the end of the class, the students can choose to write an essay **or** take a test.

Y: yet: The patient complained of chronic pain, **yet** she refused treatment.

S: so: I have only been a nurse for one year, **so** I have little experience with paper charting.



When the conjunctions "and" and "or" connect three or more words or phrases, use a **serial comma** to separate items in the series

Transitional words such as "**however**" and "**therefore**" can also function as conjunctions:

- The authors agreed on the prevalence of the problem; **however**, they disagreed on the problem's cause.
- Several employees complained about the new policies, and **therefore**, the manager held an all-staff meeting to address their concerns.



Paired Conjunctions

Paired conjunctions consist of two words or phrases that help make a point or establish alternatives.

Although paired conjunctions can be helpful in structuring a sentence, they can also make sentences wordier than necessary, so use these conjunctions sparingly.

both...and

- The project will require significant investments of **both** time **and** money.
- **Both** the students **and** the teachers were satisfied with the pilot program.



Note: When two subjects are connected by "both...and," use a plural verb (such as "are" or "were").

Paired Conjunctions

not only...but also

- Students who did not complete the assignment received **not only** a poor grade **but also** a warning from the teacher.
- **Not only** did the student include full sentences from the source without using quotation marks, **but** he **also** failed to properly cite paraphrased material.



Paired Conjunctions

either...or

- **Either** the students were unprepared **or** the assessment was poorly written.
- Participants in the survey could **either** choose from a list of possible answers **or** write in their own responses.

neither...nor

- Students who did not complete the project received **neither** praise **nor** rewards.
- The staff **neither** followed the new policy **nor** asked for clarification.

Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions join a subordinate clause to a main clause and establishes a relationship between the two. There are many subordinating clauses, but here are some of the most common:

After	Although	As	As if
As long as	As much as	As soon as	As though
Because	Before	Even if	Even though
How	If	Inasmuch as	In order that
Lest	Now that	Provided	Since
So that	Than	That	Though
Till	Unless	Until	When
Whenever	Where	Wherever	While

Subordinating Conjunctions

There are two ways to structure a sentence using a subordinating conjunction:

1- Main clause + subordinate clause

- The teacher administered the test **after** giving instructions.
- The author must avoid bias **if** she wants to maintain a scholarly tone.
- I will turn in this assignment at midnight **whether** or not I complete it.

2-Subordinate clause + , + main clause

- **After** giving instructions, the teacher administered the test.
- **If** she wants to maintain a scholarly tone, the author must avoid bias.
- **Whether** or not I complete this assignment, I will turn it in at midnight.

EXAMPLES

I will not say anything otherwise you might misunderstand me.

Robin and Russel went to the beach.

Sleep now or you will miss the class tomorrow.

Robin did not try hard so he did not succeed.

Alex is in good form but Robin is not.

Play up to your potential otherwise, you will be left out of the team.

Life is full of troubles yet none wants to die.

I went to bed for I was feeling exhausted.

EXAMPLES

He inspires me always because he believes in me.

I started writing when I was eight.

Everyone asked me how I wrote such stories at that age.

I did not understand why people used to give compliments to me.

I used to sit alone and think about many things while others played on the ground.

Though I tried to be free with them, they did not seem to like me.

They came to talk to me as soon as I entered the classroom.

It was a long time since someone had come to talk with me on their own.

EXAMPLES

Neither the boy nor his brother want to do their chores.

Either the students or their parents were expected to pick up supplies for the project.

Both the captain and the soldiers run two miles every day.

Both Joey and Sam completed his part of the project.

Either the doctors or the nurses will visit their patients at least once a day.

The war caused not only destruction and death but also generations of hatred between the two communities.

My brother not only likes to play video games, but he also likes to watch movies.



Let's Practice

The train stopped _____ the man got off.

And

But

Or

So

We stayed at home _____ watched a horror film.

And

But

Or

So

I wanted to buy a newspaper in the morning _____ didn't have enough money for that.

And

But

Or

So

I have a lot of household work to do now _____ I can't go to the mall with you.

And

But

Or

So

He's a rich man _____ he doesn't spend a lot of money.

And

But

Or

So

What do you want, tea _____ coffee?

And

But

Or

So

Is Central Park Tower located in New York _____ London?

And

But

Or

So

I will study my spelling words _____ I can get a good score on the exam.

And

But

Or

So

1. I was ill I didn't go to work.

so

because

as

2. You should get your license renewed at once pay a fine.

or

nor

but

5. I am very tired I
have been working all day.

so

because

therefore

6. She not only gave us a fine dinner
..... drove us back home.

but

but also

also

8. I am not angry.
anything I feel a little surprised.

If

Unless

Whether

10. August 31st is a national holiday
..... everybody dances in
the streets.

when

where

that

12. We will get there
..... you do.

sooner

as soon as

as soon than



See You

NEXT WEEK