**Correlative Conjunctions**

Correlative Conjunctions are pairs of words that work together to connect two parts of a sentence that hold an equal value, or **correlate** with one another

Correlative conjunctions are pairs such as *neither . . . nor*, *not . . . only,* and *but . . . also*.

These [**conjunctions**](https://speakspeak.com/resources/english-grammar-rules/conjunctions) connect two balanced clauses, phrases, or words.

The two elements that correlative conjunctions connect are usually similar in length and grammatical structure.

**Example sentences containing correlative conjunctions:**

* **either . . . or**  
  We can go to **either** Greece **or** Spain for our holiday.  
  It’s my final offer – you can **either** take it **or** leave it.
* **both . . . and**  
  **Both** rugby **and** football are popular in France.  
  **Both** English **and** Welsh are spoken in Wales.
* **not only . . . but also**  
  **Not only** is he a professional footballer, **but** he’s **also** a successful businessman.
* **not . . . but**  
  There are **not** two **but** three Baltic states: Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.  
  In sport, what counts is **not** the winning **but** the taking part.
* **neither . . . nor**  
  **Neither** Norway **nor** Switzerland is in the European Union.  
  Marriage is **neither** heaven **nor** hell, it is simply purgatory.
* **whether . . . orWhether** you love them**or** hate them, you have to admit that the Rolling Stones are very popular.  
  I’m totally confused – I don’t know**whether** I’m coming**or** going.
* [**no sooner**](https://speakspeak.com/resources/english-grammar-rules/various-grammar-rules/hardly-no-sooner)**. . . than**  
  **No sooner** had I finished watering the garden **than** it started raining.

**Connectives**

Connectives connect and relate sentences and paragraphs. They assist in the logical flow of ideas as they signal the relationship between sentences and paragraphs. In prose, the material is supported and conditioned not only by the ordering of the material (its position) but by connectives which signal order, relationship and movement.  
  
Some of the more commonly used connectives are listed below. Note especially how these connections function to develop, relate, connect and move ideas.

**CONNECTIVE WORDS**

**addition of ideas -** and, also, besides, further, furthermore, too, moreover, in addition, then, of equal importance, equally important, another

**time -** next, afterward, finally, later, last, lastly, at last, now, subsequently, then, when, soon, thereafter, after a short time, the next week (month, day, etc.), a minute later, in the meantime, meanwhile, on the following day, at length, ultimately, presently

**order or sequence-**first, second, (etc.), finally, hence, next, then, from here on, to begin with, last of all, after, before, as soon as, in the end, gradually

**space and place-**above, behind, below, beyond, here, there, to the right (left), nearby, opposite, on the other side, in the background, directly ahead, along the wall, as you turn right, at the top, across the hall, at this point, adjacent to

**to signal an example-**for example, to illustrate, for instance, to be specific, such as, moreover, furthermore, just as important, similarly, in the same way

**results -**as a result, hence, so, accordingly, as a consequence, consequently, thus, since, therefore, for this reason, because of this

**purpose -**to this end, for this purpose, with this in mind, for this reason(s)

**comparison -**like, in the same manner (way), as so, similarly

**contrast connectives -**but, in contrast, conversely, however, still, nevertheless, nonetheless, yet, and yet, on the other hand, on the contrary, or, in spite of this, actually, in fact

**to summarize or report -**in summary, to sum up, to repeat, briefly, in short, finally, on the whole, therefore, as I have said, in conclusion, as you can see

**Sentences with conjunctions and connecting words**

| **Conjunction** | **Sentence** |
| --- | --- |
| although | **Although** he's very famous he is still nice. |
| and | I like tea **and** coffee. |
| as | **As** I came she was leaving. |
| **As** you couldn't see the film, we'll tell you something about it. |
| because | She goes to the tennis club **because** she likes to play tennis. |
| but | He reads magazines, **but** he doesn't like to read books. |
| either | I'm sorry, Peter is ill and I can't come **either**. |
| We can **either** go to the cinema **or** to the café. |
| even | She likes swimming, **even** in winter. |
| even if | Don't drink any alcohol **even if** you drive carefully. |
| even though | This book is very popular; **even though**, I don't like it. |
| how | Do you know **how** to ride a snowboard? |
| however | **However** we've lost the match. |
| They worked hard for the test, **however**, they failed. |
| if | **If** they were older, they could go to the party. |
| in case | Take your mobile with you **in case** you miss the bus. |
| in spite of | He looks very fit **in spite of** his age. |
| neither | They didn't go to the party, and **neither** did I. |
| **Neither** drinks **nor** food are allowed in this room. |
| or | Do you like tea **or** coffee? |
| otherwise | Look at the map, please. **Otherwise** you'll get lost. |
| since | **Since** he's lost his money, he couldn't go to the restaurant. |
| unless | Her baby cannot fall asleep **unless** she stays in the room. |
| what | I don't know **what** to say. |
| when | **When** you're in London, write an e-mail to me. |
| whether | I'm going home **whether** you like it or not. |