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## Conjunctions



### WHAT ARE CONJUNCTIONS?

They are parts of speech that connect words, sentences, phrases, or clauses. It is the glue that binds together words, phrases, and clauses. Conjunctions allow you to construct complex, elegant sentences without the choppy nature that several short sentences might cause. Conjunctions are of three types. They are: coordinating, correlative, and subordinating. Each of which has a different purpose, but all facilitate the word connection.

### TYPES OF CONJUNCTION

#### Coordinating conjunctions

Coordinating conjunctions link words or phrases in a sentence that have the same grammatical function. They join words or ideas together. For example: I like carrom *and* chess. Here, *and* acts as a coordinating conjunction that joins the two nouns mentioned here: carrom *and* chess.

The seven main coordinating conjunctions in English, which form the acronym (FANBOYS), are as follows:

- **For**—To explain the reason or purpose
- **And**—To add one thing to another
- **Nor**—To present an alternate negative idea
- **But**—To show contrast
- **Or**—To present a choice or an alternative.
- **Yet**—To introduce a differing idea that follows the preceding idea logically
- **So**—To indicate any result or inference

#### Understand With Example



- I love cricket *and* football.
- You may take this book *or* that one.
- She is kind *so* she helps people.

#### Subordinating conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions join a subordinate clause to a main clause and establish a relationship between the two. It also demonstrates that the dependent clause (or subordinate clause) contains the less essential notion in the sentence, as opposed to the independent clause.

#### Understand With Example



Lia went to bed *after* she finished her work. Here, the subordinate clause is “*after* she finished her work” which is not of the same significance as the main clause, which is “Lia went to bed”.

#### Below are a few of the most common subordinating clauses:

after	once
although	provided
as	provided that
as if	rather than
as long as	since
as much as	so that
as soon as	supposing



as though	than
because	that
before	though
even	till
even if	unless
even though	until
if	when
if only	whenever
if when	where
if then	whereas
inasmuch as	where if
in order that	wherever
just as	whether
lest	which
now	while
now since	who
now that	whoever
now when	why

A subordinating conjunction can be used in two ways to form a sentence:

1. Main clause + subordinate clause
  - The student submitted the test after completing all the questions.
2. Subordinate clause + , + main clause
  - After completing all the questions, student submitted the test.

### Correlative conjunctions

Correlative conjunctions are pairs of conjunctions that work together. These conjunctions correlate, working in pairs to join phrases or words that carry equal importance within a sentence.

Some common pairs include:

as ... as	no sooner ... than
both ... and	not only ... but also
either ... or	rather ... than
if ... then	scarcely ... when
neither ... nor	such ... that

### Understand With Example




- She studies *both* English Literature and History.
- She seems undecided *whether* to go or stay.
- She can have *either* tea or coffee.
- She likes *neither* apples *nor* oranges.

Some rules while using correlative conjunctions are given below:

1. **Maintain a parallel structure.** Since correlative conjunctions come in pairs, one must use the same type of word after each one in the pair.
2. **Don't use commas with correlative conjunctions.** However, if the second conjunction sits before an independent clause (i.e., words that could be a standalone sentence), then use a comma.

Important points to be noted while using conjunctions:

1. *So...as* and *as.....as* is used to show a comparison between two things, people, etc.
2. *Although* and *though* are followed by yet or comma (,)
3. *Lest* is followed either by *should* or the first form of the verb. *Lest* is a negative word thus, it should never be used with not, never, to avoid redundancy.

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4. *Unless* is an action-oriented term, whereas *Until* is a time-oriented word. They should not be used with no, not, never, etc. since they are negative terms.
  5. In positive statements, the words *doubt* and *doubtful* are followed by the words *if* or *whether*. In negative phrases, however, they are followed by *that*.
  6. The word *between* is followed by the word *and*. The word *to* comes after the word from.
  7. *Neither of* means none of the two, *none of* is used when there are more than two, *either of* means one of the two, *one of* is used when there are more than two.
  8. Subordinating conjunctions should be used after *rather/other*.

### PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Fill in the blanks with appropriate conjunction.

1. Many things have happened \_\_\_\_\_ I left this place.
2. He bled so profusely \_\_\_\_\_ he died.
3. Lia \_\_\_\_\_ her brother attended the party.
4. The principal \_\_\_\_\_ the teacher had signed the papers.
5. He likes cricket \_\_\_\_\_ hates football.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ his bike is old, it still runs well.
7. Is it Monday \_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday today?
8. Neither Varun \_\_\_\_\_ Tarun owns a car.
9. Write this down \_\_\_\_\_ you forget.
10. You will fail the test \_\_\_\_\_ you study.

### SOLUTIONS

1. Since
2. That
3. And
4. As well as
5. But
6. Although
7. Or
8. Nor
9. Lest
10. Unless

