

Subordinating conjunctions

GRAMMAR

LEVEL Advanced

NUMBER C1_1011G_EN LANGUAGE English

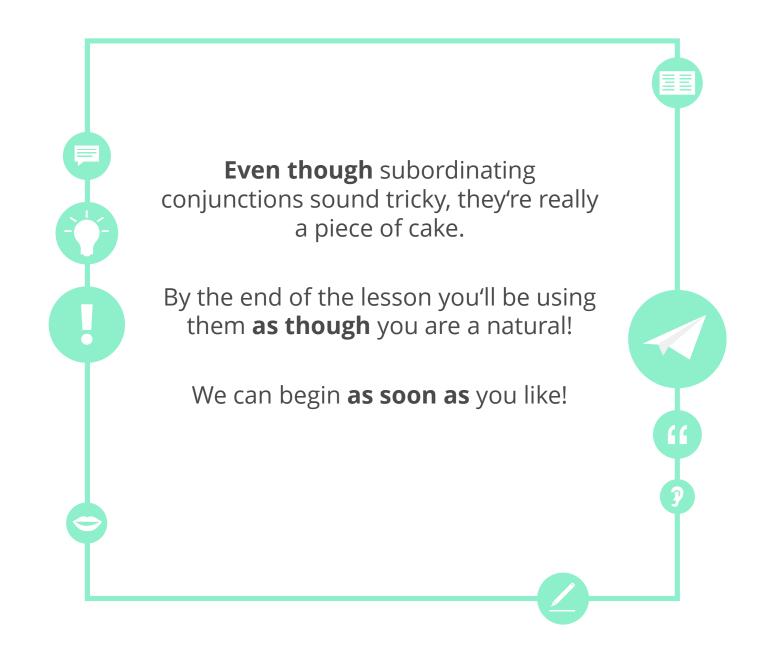




Goals

- Can identify and explain the purpose of subordinating conjunctions.
- Can produce examples using subordinating conjunctions at the beginning and middle of a sentence.







The role of subordinating conjunctions

■ A **subordinating conjunction** introduces a **subordinate clause**.



Andrew kicked the ball as far as he could.

While the crowd looked on, the teams assembled on the field.



The building blocks of sentences

- Clauses are the building blocks of sentences.
 - In general, clauses have at least a **subject** and a **verb**.
 - There are **two** main types of clause: **independent** and **dependent**.
 - An independent clause can stand alone as a complete sentence while a dependent clause cannot.

Type of clause	Example
Independent clause	Independent clauses stand alone
Dependent clause	while dependent are not able to!



Coordinating conjunctions

- A coordinating conjunction implies that each clause is of **equal** importance in the sentence.
- Coordinating conjunctions generally join together independent clauses.

Conjunction	Purpose	Examples
for	explanation	We decided not to do the tour, for it was raining quite heavily.
and	additional information	She likes to sing , and she loves to dance.
nor	denial	There was no evidence , nor was there any feasible motive for the crime.
but	contrast	We wanted to drink a cocktail, but they were a bit too pricey.
or	choice	I could do my coursework , or hang out with my friends.
yet	contrast	Berny says he hates German, yet he speaks it all the time.
so	consequence	The restaurant was highly recommended, so we decided to eat there.





Identify as many coordinating conjunctions, independent and dependent clauses from the dialogue as you can.



I've been thinking of going to that concert on Friday night, but unfortunately I don't think I have enough money. My friend will be visiting for the weekend, so we're going to visit some museums instead.

Nice plan, Tony! I have a ticket, but now I'm not sure what to do. I could go out as I planned originally, or I could have a quiet night at home. I'm tempted, for I'm so tired these days!





Hmm, there's neither a right choice to make, nor a wrong one. It's up to you!

Provided that this week stays calm, I think I can manage a busier weekend. It would be nice, yet I'm not sure I want to run the risk of getting sick.





Avoiding redundant information

Sometimes we can delete some words from the sentence to avoid redundant information.



I expected the show to be good. I didn't expect it to be amazing.

I expected the show to be good, but not amazing.

There was no proof. There was no evidence. There was neither proof, nor evidence.





Use coordinating conjunctions to make compound sentences

1.	Refugees are still fleeing Syria. Europe is still closing its borders.	→	Refugees are still fleeing Syria, but Europe is closing its borders.
2.	We could go to the cinema. We could go to a bar.	→	
3.	Angela did not appreciate art. She did not appreciate music.	→	
4.	Artificial intelligence will soon be widespread. The job market needs to adapt.	→	
5.	They survived the winter. Their feathers were well adapted to the cold.	→	
6.	She claims to be progressive. She is a climate change denier.	→	
7.	We were very late. We took an Uber.	→	
8.	I love my brother. He drives me mad.	→	



Subordinating conjunctions

- Subordinating conjunctions show an **unequal** relationship between two clauses.
- They introduce the clause that is of lesser importance (the subordinate clause).
- They can introduce dependent clauses (clauses that cannot stand alone).

Conjunction	Function	Example
Since, as, because	Reason, cause and effect	Since we were early, we grabbed a coffee before the talk.
While, when, before, after, until	Time	I used to eat so many sweets when I was a child.
Although, though, whereas, even though, while	Contrast	He won the award, even though he didn't work very hard.
If, in case, unless	Condition	I'm not apologising unless she says sorry first!
In order to, in order that, so that	Purpose	We should clean the house so that our guests feel comfortable.





The subordinating conjunctions **since**, **because** and **as** can be used to express **cause**.

- Mark was very busy, since he had been given several new tasks from the meeting.
- Several thousand tourists were delayed at the airport **because** it was the first day of the summer holidays.





Time

The subordinating conjunctions when, while, before, after, since and until can be used to express time.

- Do you want to check the address while we wait for the bus?
- When he was younger, he couldn't sleep through the night.
- We shouldn't decorate for the partyuntil Sophie has left for the gym.
- I didn't have time for breakfast this morning **since** my alarm clock didn't go off.





Contrast

- The subordinating conjunctions **although**, **though**, **while**, **whereas** and **even though** can be used to express a **contrast**.
- The conjunction **while** can be used for **contrast** as well as **time**. Look at the examples and the differences between the two functions.

- Some people believe in marriage,while others are against it.
- Phillip and Jess were enjoying sailing on the lake **while** Tim stayed home with the flu.
- Many people believe capital punishment is a deterrent to serious crime **even though** it makes little difference to the crime rate.





The subordinating conjunctions **if**, **in case**, and **unless** can be used to express **condition**.

- **If** the weather stays nice, we can go for a picnic after work!
- We will be behind schedule **unless** you wake up on time.
- Remember a jacket in case you get cold later.





Purpose

The subordinating conjunctions in order to, in order that, and so that can be used to express purpose.

Consider the examples below.

- Please leave your books on the table **so that** the teacher can collect them after class.
- The team will be bringing binoculars today **in order to** better identify the birdlife.

www.lingoda.com



15



Fill in the gaps

Use subordinating conjunctions to complete the sentences.

although

in case

when

as

1.	I was exhausted today	l stayed up
	all night studying for the exam.	

- 2. _____ The Beatles are a legendary band, I prefer Pink Floyd.
- 3. I was out every night _____ I lived in Berlin.
- 4. Don't get too comfortable _____ there is still a lot of work to do.







Complete each sentence

Complete the sentences using a subordinating conjunction and your own idea.

- 1. Alfred had a long, hot bath _____
- 2. _____ I'm still not tired of travelling.
- 3. Our team will have to work hard ______
- 4. _____, you're the boss of this company.
- 5. Please take a ticket at the desk ______



Identify the most important clause in each sentence.





Refugees are still fleeing Syria, but Europe is closing its borders.

Words like **still**, **anyway** and **only** help to identify important information!



Identify the most important clause in each sentence.





Refugees are still fleeing Syria, but Europe is closing its borders.





It's still raining, but we have to go out.



Identify the most important clause in each sentence.







It was raining, but we went anyway.



He only took the keys because he thought they belonged to him.



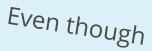


Describe each image

Make a sentence including a subordinating conjunction to explain what is happening in each image. You can use the conjunctions below to help if you need ideas!











Since



Sentence positioning

- Subordinate clauses can appear either at the beginning or the end of a sentence.
- When the subordinate clause is at the **beginning of a sentence**, it is necessary to **add a comma**.
- There is no need for a comma before a subordinate clause at the end of a sentence.

Placement of since

- I don't often eat Vietnamese food **since** I hate coriander.
- Since I hate coriander, I don't often eat Vietnamese food.



Complete the dialogue using coordinating and subordinating conjunctions. What function does each conjunction have?





Since it's raining, what do you think we should do?	
	We could go to that museum if it's free?
but	
	in case
Unless	
	although
After	

lingoda



More subordinate conjunctions

- Simple subordinate conjunctions consist of just **one word**.
- Complex subordinators are made up of **two or more words**.

www.lingoda.com

Complex subordinate conjunctions can appear at the beginning or middle of a sentence:

- Even though
- Insofar as
- As far as
- As opposed to
- Considering that

- **Even though** I detest coriander, I adore Vietnamese food.
- The report is optimistic **insofar as** inequality is on the decline.
- As far as I am concerned, Beyonce is not a feminist.
- The decision was popular in rural areas **as opposed to** cities.
- Considering that she is one-handed, she did well.



24



Omitting that



Often, in common speech, the word **that** is missing from the complex subordinating conjunction.



We study English **so** we can travel. (conjunction = **so that**)



Complete the dialogue





In	or	de	er	to
----	----	----	----	----

In order that

Good morning! Welcome to customer care. _____ help you, I will need your customer reference number.

as opposed to

Insofar as

Can I ask the nature of your problem? I might be able to give you some information _____ going through a long process over the phone.

insofar as

whereas

You will need to be transferred to the insurance department. We deal with registration problems _____ they can help you with insurance matters.

to the extent that

considering that

I will transfer you now. Have a lovely day. I hope the team can help you _____ you need.

I'm very confused. I have two documents from you. One has one number ______ the other shows something different!

I don't understand my family's health coverage. _____ my wife has a heart condition, I think it's best that I know the details. Can I speak to someone?

Oh, of course! I need to speak with the insurance specialists_____ your department.

even so

while

Provided that

Considering that

rather than

considering that





Build a story

Use the pictures below to build a story. You can put the images in any order you like, just make sure you use coordinating and subordinating conjunctions to explain the twists and turns of the narrative.







As opposed to

While





Considering that



	TRUE	FALSE
1. A dependent clause can stand alone as a sentence.		
2. For is an example of a coordinating conjunction.		
3. Subordinating conjunctions introduce the more important clause in the sentence.		
4. A subordinate clause at the start of a sentence must be followed by a comma.		
5. We can omit the word that from a complex coordinating conjunction in formal writing.		
6. As far as we know so far, there are no aliens on the moon.		

lingoda



Over to you!

Write a postcard to your friend at home about your holiday in London. The weather has been disappointing, so you have had to change your plans around. Use as many subordinating conjunctions as you can!



Game

- Choose one of the pictures below and tell a short story behind it.
- Try to include coordinating and subordinating conjunctions (use the examples below to help you).

Since, insofar as

Because, provided that

Or, while

Nor, even if











Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.







Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson. What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?





Answer key



1. as, 2. although, 3. when, 4. in case

Exercise p. 16

mad.

Uber.

1F, 2T, 3F, 4T, 5F, 6T

Exercise p. 28

than 7. to the extent that Considering that 5. whereas 6. rather 1. In order to 2. while 3. as opposed to 4.

Exercise p. 26

3. He only took the keys...

2. ...we went anyway.

1. Refugees are still fleeing Syria...

Exercise p. 20

7. We were very late, so we took an is a climate change denier.

8. Hove my brother, but he drives me

6. She claims to be progressive, yet she

feathers were well adapted to the cold.

5. They survived the winter, for their

.dabb

widespread, so the job market needs to 4. Artificial intelligence will soon be

she appreciate music.

3. Angela did not appreciate art, nor did

2. We could go the cinema, or a bar.

Exercise p. 9







Fill in the correct subordinating conjuction

I was young, I liked to dance. I would insist on wearing my dancing shoes in the house.















Multiple choice

1. _____ she was young, she has loved to dance.

- a. Ever since
- b. Even when

- 2. Which sentence is correct?
- a. Bowie will be forever in our hearts, considering that his music spanned generations.
- b. Bowie will be forever in our hearts considering that his music spanned generations.



Multiple choice

3. Which sentence is correct?

a. In order to succeed, the company must revise its business strategy.

b. The company must revise its business strategy in order to succeed.

c. Both of the above.

4. Peter finds cooking therapeutic _____ Jenny hates it.

a. while

b. as opposed to



Homework answer key

Exercise p. 36-37

иәцм

Exercise p. 35





About this material

Find out more at www.lingoda.com



This material is provided by **lingoda**

lingoda Who are we?



Why learn English online?



What kinds of English classes do we offer?



Who are our English teachers?



How do our English certificates work?



We also have a language blog!