

Power of Conjunctions



“Tiny words.
Big power.”



Think:



How can ONE word change
what happens in a sentence?

What Conjunctions Really Do

Conjunctions do more than join sentences.

They can:



Set Rules

Establish conditions
and limits.



Change Outcomes

Shift the direction
of events.



Control Time

Determine sequence
and duration.



Give Choices

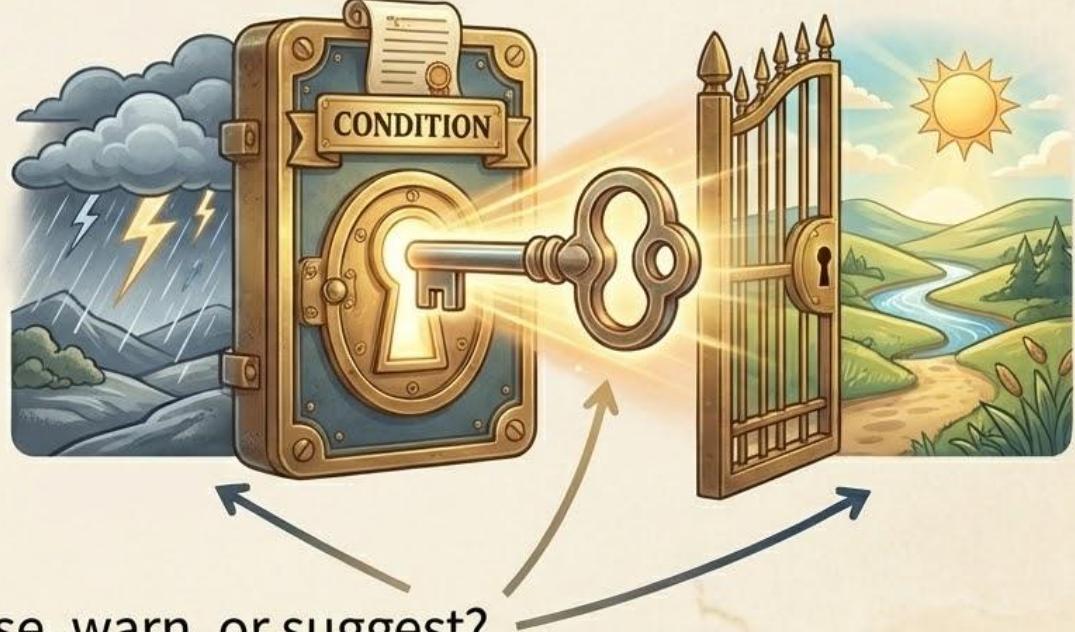
Present alternative
options.

→ Do these sound powerful or small?

if – Condition

Meaning:

Something will happen ONLY if a condition is met.



→ Does this word promise, warn, or suggest?

If – Examples



If you practise



If you will practise

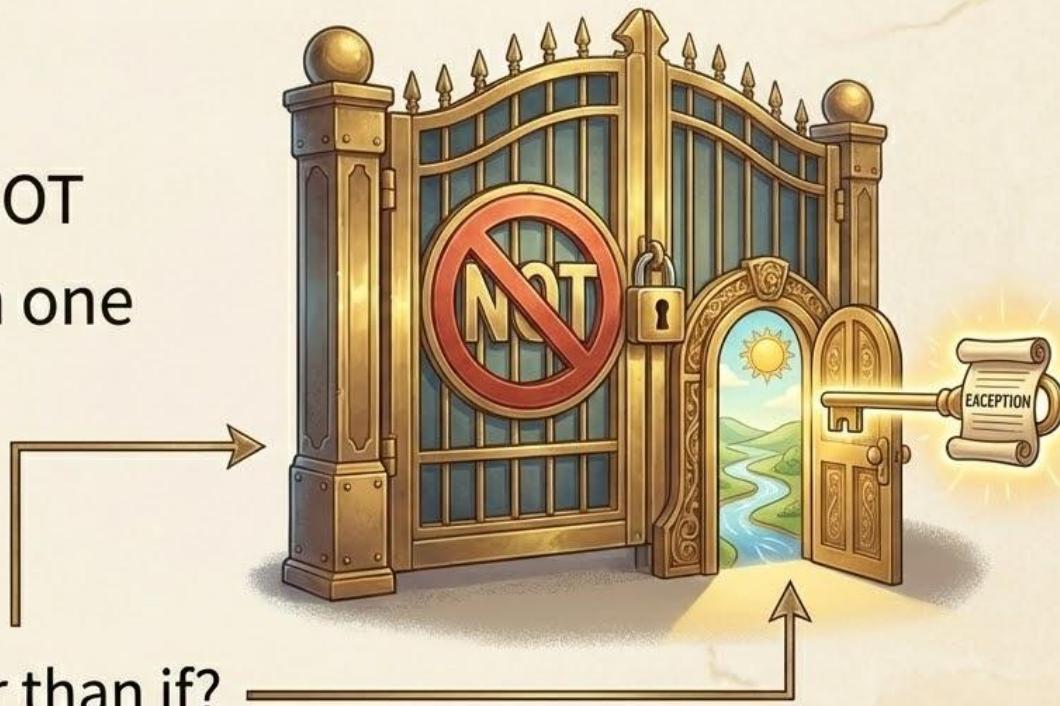


What sounds wrong in the second sentence?

unless – Exception

Meaning:

Something will NOT happen except in one case.



→ Is this word stricter than if?

unless – Examples

Example ✓:



You cannot enter unless you have permission.



Example ✗:



You cannot enter unless you don't have permission.



Why is the second sentence confusing? 🤔

until – End Point

Meaning:

Tells us when something stops.



→ Does this show a start or an end?

until – Examples



Example ✓:
Wait here
until I return.



Example ✗:
Wait here **until**
I will return.



What extra word breaks
the sentence? ?

before / after – Order

Meaning:

Show which action comes first.

Can these be swapped without changing meaning? 



before / after – Examples

Example ✓:



Wash your hands
before you eat.



Example ✗:



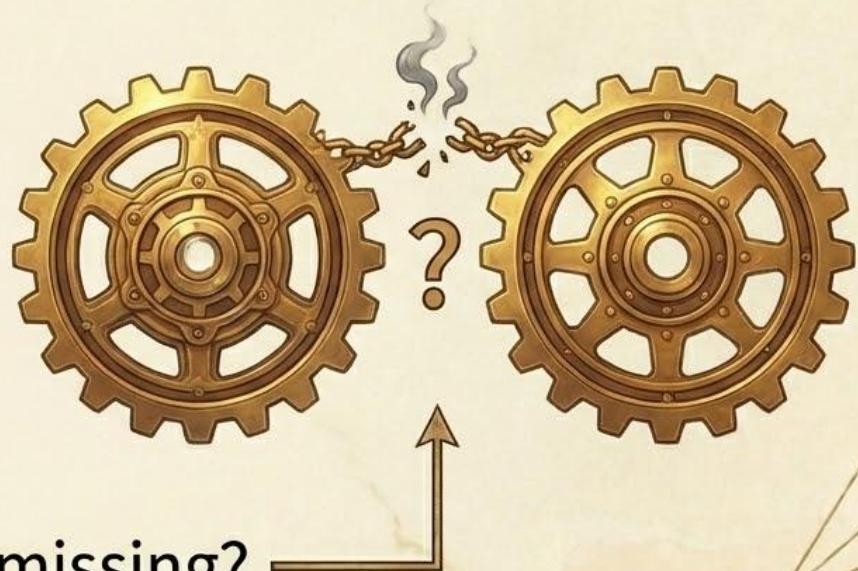
Wash your hands
before you will eat.



Why does the future tense
sound wrong here? ?

Conjunction Pairs

Some conjunctions work ONLY in pairs.



What happens if one part is missing?

either ... or – Choice

Meaning:

You must choose
ONE option.

Is this flexible or final?



either ... or — Examples

Example ✓:

Either you apologise or you explain.



Example ✗:

Either you apologise and you explain.



Why does “and” ruin the meaning? ?

neither ... nor – No Choice

Meaning:

None of the options work.



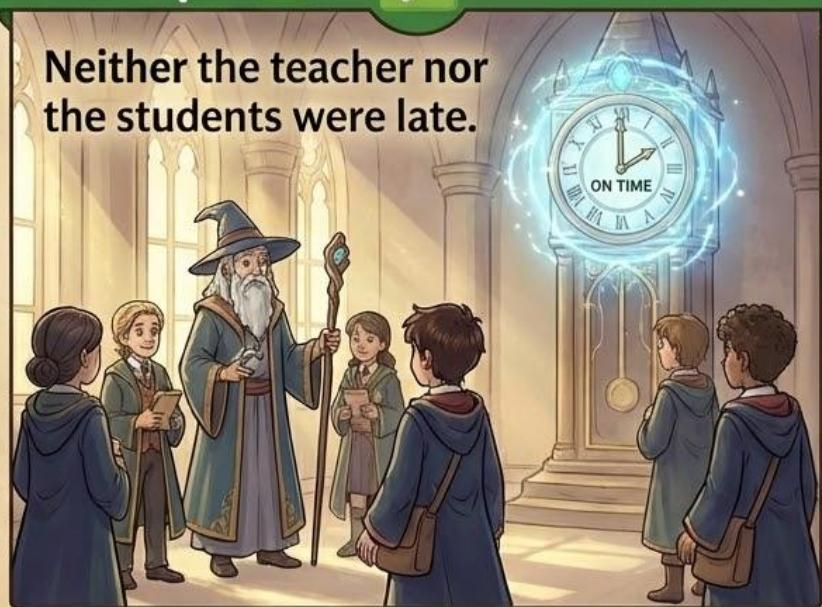
Is this positive or negative?

neither ... nor – Examples

Example ✓:



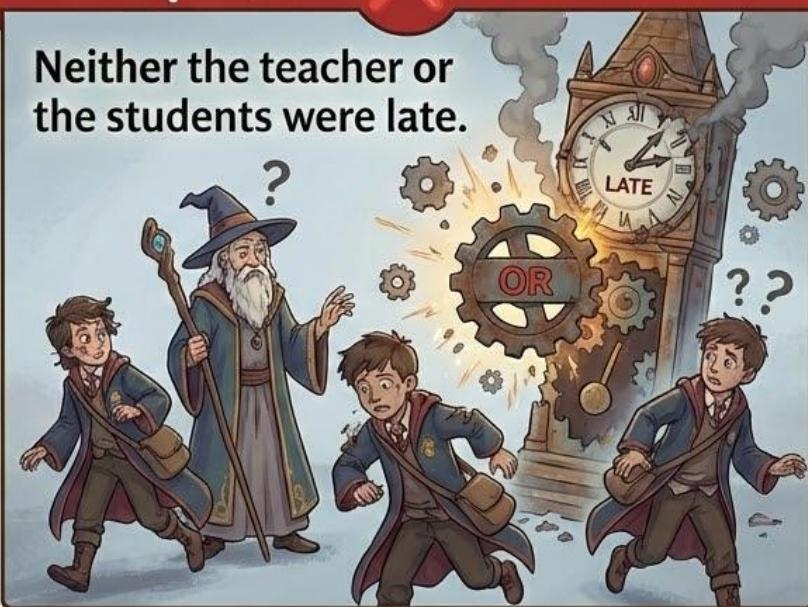
Neither the teacher nor
the students were late.



Example ✗:



Neither the teacher or
the students were late.



Which word pair must always match? ?

not only ... but also – Emphasis

Meaning:

Adds importance to
the second idea.



Does this make writing stronger?



not only ... but also – Examples

Example ✓:



She is not only kind but also brave.

Example ✗:



She is not only kind and also brave.

Which part of the pair is missing? ?



Rule Board Challenge



- You are the teacher now. Create a CLASS RULE BOARD.

Instructions & Requirements:

- Write 4 rules

Each rule must use a DIFFERENT conjunction

- Must include:

✓ if or unless

✓ until or before / after

✓ one conjunction pair (either...or / neither...nor / not only...but also)



Bonus: Make your rules sound serious 😷 or absolutely crazy 😱