
Conjunctions - Overview

Introduction

1) Conjunctions are words that link other words, phrases, clauses, or sentences together.

*Susan is an amazing wife **and** a wonderful mom.*

2) Conjunctions add eloquence to our speech. They also allow us to form complex sentences instead of using multiple short ones.

*Bran likes eating. He doesn't like cooking. He finds cooking boring.
Bran likes eating **but** he doesn't like cooking **as** he finds it boring.*

Conjunctions can be divided into the following categories:

a) subordinating conjunctions link two clauses, a main (independent) one and a subordinate (dependent) one. The most commonly used subordinating conjunctions are *although, as, because, if, though, unless etc.*

*She won't speak with her parents **unless** they apologise first.*

b) correlative conjunctions connect two equal grammatical items. These conjunctions come in pairs – *either ... or, neither ... nor, not only ... but also.*

***Either** we go to the party **or** we stay at home.*

c) compound conjunctions are phrases which are used as conjunctions. A compound conjunction has two or three words that go together – *so that, as long as, even though etc.*

*Mike lied to his parents **so that** he could go to the party.*

d) coordinating conjunctions are used to link words, phrases, and clauses of equal importance in a sentence. There are seven coordinating conjunctions – *for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so* (you can remember them with the help of the acronym *FANBOYS*).

*Beth doesn't like cheese, **yet** she eats pizza nearly every day.*

Short Story Dialogue

– I heard **that** Erick is moving to a new place. Is it true?

– Yeah, he is moving to a bigger apartment with his girlfriend. **Even though** they haven't been dating for that long, they decided to live together to save some money.

– Yeah, it actually makes sense **as** rent is so expensive right now!

– Totally! **And as long as** they get along, I don't see a problem with them living together so soon.

Independent Practice - Conjunctions - Overview

1) Underline conjunctions in the following text.

The studio was filled with the rich odour of roses, and when the light summer wind stirred amidst the trees of the garden, there came through the open door the heavy scent of the lilac, or the more delicate perfume of the pink-flowering thorn.

...

As the painter looked at the gracious and comely form he had so skilfully mirrored in his art, a smile of pleasure passed across his face, and seemed about to linger there. But he suddenly started up, and closing his eyes, placed his fingers upon the lids, as though he sought to imprison within his brain some curious dream from which he feared he might awake. [The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde]

Independent Practice: Answers - Conjunctions - Overview

1) Underline conjunctions in the following text.

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Coordinating Conjunctions

Introduction

1) Conjunctions are words that link other words, phrases, clauses, or sentences together.

*Susan is an amazing wife **and** a wonderful mom.*

2) There are many types of conjunctions. Among them there are coordinating conjunctions. They are used to link words, phrases, and clauses of equal importance in a sentence.

*Sam complains about his job, **yet** he doesn't try to find a new one.*

There are seven coordinating conjunctions – *for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so* (you can remember them with the help of the acronym *FANBOYS*):

*They couldn't afford to rent the apartment, **for** it was too expensive.*

*You can't have your cake **and** eat it.*

*Samantha doesn't want to go out, **nor** does she invite us to her place.*

*I was quite anxious at the beginning, **but** eventually I managed to pull myself together.*

*You can call me **or** send a message when you get off from work.*

*Ben says that he is busy all the time, **yet** he has time to play online games every day.*

*Bill is allergic to dairy, **so** he doesn't eat any cheese.*

Short Story Dialogue

- My brother's birthday is coming up, **yet** I have zero ideas as to what to get him.
- Well, I doubt that gadgets are on your list, **for** they're too expensive. Maybe there's something he likes a lot?
- He definitely loves cinema **and** everything cinema-related, **but** I'm not sure what I can buy.
- I heard of this online shop where you can buy actual movie posters. Just find out what movie he likes the most, **so** you can get exactly what he wants.
- That's an awesome idea! Thanks a lot!

Independent Practice – Coordinating Conjunctions

1) Underline the correct conjunction.

- Mike claims to be good at time management, *so/yet* he does everything last minute.
- Lilly wanted to thank the stranger, *for/but* he was nowhere to be seen.
- I wasn't in the mood to cook dinner, *but/so* we ordered a take-out.
- They didn't like our proposal *and/nor* did they suggest anything else.
- I wanted to see my friend in Seattle, *but/so* I got sick and couldn't go that weekend.
- There was something charming *and/nor* elegant in the way she spoke.
- He can't call you right now, *for/and* there is no cell reception.
- Their family lives in different states, *yet/so* they don't often spend holidays together.
- My sister always gets up early, *for/yet* she is running late every single day.
- Pete doesn't exercise *nor/but* does he eat healthy.

Independent Practice: Answers - Coordinating Conjunctions

1) Underline the correct conjunction.

- a. Mike claims to be good at time management, *so/**yet* he does everything last minute.
- b. Lilly wanted to thank the stranger, *for/**but* he was nowhere to be seen.
- c. I wasn't in the mood to cook dinner, *but/**so* we ordered a take-out.
- d. They didn't like our proposal *and/**nor* did they suggest anything else.
- e. I wanted to see my friend in Seattle, *but/**so* I got sick and couldn't go that weekend.
- f. There was something charming *and/**nor* elegant in the way she spoke.
- g. He can't call you right now, *for/**and* there is no cell reception.
- h. Their family lives in different states, *yet/**so* they don't often spend holidays together.
- i. My sister always gets up early, *for/**yet* she is running late every single day.
- j. Pete doesn't exercise *nor/**but* does he eat healthy.

Subordinating Conjunctions

Introduction

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*Susan is an amazing wife **and** a wonderful mom.*

2) There are many types of conjunctions. Among them there are subordinating conjunctions. They link two clauses, a main (independent) one and a subordinate (dependent) one.

***Although** Emma wanted to go together with them, she declined the invitation.*

The most commonly used subordinating conjunctions are *although, as, because, if, since, though, unless, while, whereas etc.*

Subordinating conjunctions perform two functions in a sentence: they state the importance of the independent clause and provide a transition between two ideas within a sentence.

*[**Once** she stopped caring about strangers' opinions]², [Liz became happier]¹.*

1 – main clause, 2 – subordinate clause

If the subordinate clause follows the main one, we do not usually use a comma.

*[My mom cries]¹ [**whenever** she watches a romantic comedy]².*

1 – main clause, 2 – subordinate clause

If the subordinate clause precedes the main one, use a comma to separate the clauses.

*[**After** he had completed his studies]², [George decided to travel for a year]¹.*

1 – main clause, 2 – subordinate clause

Short Story Dialogue

– **Whenever** my mom doesn't let my little brother eat candies before dinner, he throws a tantrum!

– That sounds awful!

– Yeah, we don't know what to do about it. **Even though** we try to be calm **and** explain **that** you can have some candy after eating properly, he becomes all whiny.

– Maybe he doesn't like something particular? I remember **that** I hated broccoli **when** I was a kid, **and yet** I was always forced to eat it.

– Hmm, you have a good point.

Independent Practice - Subordinating Conjunctions

1) Underline the correct conjunctions.

- a. My brother doesn't like cooking *if/because* he hates cleaning up afterwards.
- b. I know that Carol won't go out with us *if/while* she has a morning shift day.
- c. *Until/Now that* we are grown-ups, we should be in charge of our decisions.
- d. *As long as/Even though* you continue avoiding your fears, you can't live a better life.
- e. Bob doesn't go for a run *and/unless* it's sunny outside.
- f. *Even though/Because* I was very tired, I went to the party.
- g. Linda always goes to thrift shops *rather than/because* she can't afford brand new clothes.
- h. I wanted to talk to Mr. Jones, *which/whose* support was always important to me.
- i. *Once/While* Kate graduates from high school, she wants to travel around the world.
- j. *That/As soon as* the dog hears the doorbell, it runs towards the door.

Independent Practice: Answers - Subordinating Conjunctions

1) Underline the correct conjunctions.

- a. My brother doesn't like cooking if/because he hates cleaning up afterwards.
- b. I know that Carol won't go out with us if/while she has a morning shift day.
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Compound Conjunctions

Introduction

1) Conjunctions are words that link other words, phrases, clauses, or sentences together.

*Susan is an amazing wife **and** a wonderful mom.*

2) There are many types of conjunctions. Among them there are compound conjunctions. They are phrases which are used as conjunctions. A compound conjunction has two or three words that go together – *so that, as long as, even though etc.*

*You can buy whatever you want **as long as** you use your own money.*

Even though compound conjunctions have two or three words that go together, they are different from correlative conjunctions which are conjunctions used only in pairs. Compare the sentences:

*Beth likes painting **as well as** drawing.*

*Beth thinks that you can be good **either** at painting **or** at drawing.*

There are several commonly used compound conjunctions:

*You can buy clothes **as well as** shoes there. (You can buy clothes and shoes there.)*

***As soon as** it started raining, they opened the windows in the apartment. (It started raining and they immediately opened the windows.)*

*The kid sang so loudly **as if/as though** there was no one in the room. (The kids sang so loudly like there was no one in the room.)*

***Even if/Even though** I don't like plain honey, I'll eat sweets with honey in them. (I don't like plain honey but nevertheless I'll eat sweets with honey in them.)*

*John will pass the test **provided that** he studies every day. (If John studies every day, he'll pass the test.)*

*I'll turn off my phone **so that** no one disturbs us.*

*Please turn off your phones **in order that** we are not disturbed by anyone. (**in order that** is more formal than **so that**)*

Short Story Dialogue

- Could you hurry up **so that** we don't miss the movie?*
- Give me a minute! It's not **as if** I'm being late on purpose!*
- Well, you could have started getting dressed earlier then. If we don't leave now, we'll miss the movie **as well as** our cab. It's waiting for us outside.*
- OK, I'm coming! See, it didn't take that long.*

Independent Practice - Compound Conjunctions

1) Fill in the gaps with the words and phrases in the box.

<i>if</i>	<i>soon</i>	<i>that</i>	<i>even</i>	<i>in</i>
<i>otherwise</i>	<i>provided</i>	<i>even though</i>	<i>as</i>	<i>as soon</i>

- a. Jack is always so dramatic as ... he were a soap opera actor. I don't understand why he is like that.
- b. ... as they broke up, they both started dating other people. I can't wrap my head around it.
- c. Sam works full-time ... well as takes care of everything at home. He is a wonderful husband!
- d. ... that you sign the contract, we can discuss the project details.
- e. You can buy a new car provided that you get a part-time job. ... you can't afford it.
- f. Liz always calls her parents during the day ... there is a huge time difference. She is in the States now, and they're in Australia.
- g. Kate always eats breakfast ... if she is late to work.
- h. I'd rather come to work earlier so ... I don't have to experience the rush hour ever again.
- i. She left the room in tears as ... as he started shouting at her.
- j. The papers should be ready today ... order that we can estimate the costs.

Independent Practice: Answers - Compound Conjunctions

1) Fill in the gaps with the words and phrases in the box.

- a. Jack is always so dramatic as **if** he were a soap opera actor. I don't understand why he is like that.
- b. **As soon** as they broke up, they both started dating other people. I can't wrap my head around it.
- c. Sam works full-time **as** well as takes care of everything at home. He is a wonderful husband!
- d. **Provided** that you sign the contract, we can discuss the project details.
- e. You can buy a new car provided that you get a part-time job. **Otherwise** you can't afford it.
- f. Liz always calls her parents during the day **even though** there is a huge time difference. She is in the States now, and they're in Australia.
- g. Kate always eats breakfast **even** if she is late to work.
- h. I'd rather come to work earlier so **that** I don't have to experience the rush hour ever again.
- i. She left the room in tears as **soon** as he started shouting at her.
- j. The papers should be ready today **in** order that we can estimate the costs.

Correlative Conjunctions

Introduction

1) Conjunctions are words that link other words, phrases, clauses, or sentences together.

*Susan is an amazing wife **and** a wonderful mom.*

2) There are many types of conjunctions. Among them there are correlative conjunctions. They connect two equal grammatical items in a sentence.

***Either** you apologise **or** I'll call mommy!*

These conjunctions come in pairs – *either ... or, neither ... nor, not only ... but also, rather ... than etc.*

When using correlative conjunctions, pay attention to the subject-predicate agreement so that you have parallel structures.

~~*College life is not only about partying, but also study like crazy.*~~

*College life is **not only** about partying, **but also** about studying like crazy.*

Note that a negative correlative like *neither ... nor* can go at the beginning of a sentence. In this case, the word order is inverted, and the auxiliary verb comes before the subject. Compare the sentences:

***Neither did** Sam clean the apartment **nor did** he buy groceries.*

*Sam **neither cleaned** the apartment **nor bought** groceries.*

Short Story Dialogue

- We can go **either** to the park **or** to the mall.
- I don't feel like going anywhere. I'd **rather** stay at home **than** go anywhere.
- Is something wrong?
- No, everything is OK. I just feel a bit sick. I don't know why though. **Neither** did I eat anything weird **nor** did I drink alcohol.
- You should definitely rest then!

Independent Practice - Correlative Conjunctions

1) Correct the mistakes in the following sentences.

- a. They are either crazy nor madly in love.
- b. Neither did Beckie understand her friend nor she tried to understand her.
- c. Traveling alone isn't as fun as to travel with friends.
- d. These jeans are both expensive or outdated.
- e. She'd rather buy frozen food than cooking every day.
- f. This joke is neither funny or appropriate.
- g. Not only will they come here but will they also stay with me for a whole week!
- h. He would rather die than would tell them the truth.
- i. She finds James not repulsive only but also annoying.
- j. Only not does he sing but he also dances at the same time.

Independent Practice: Answers - Correlative Conjunctions

1) Correct the mistakes in the following sentences.

- a. They are either crazy ~~nor~~ **or** madly in love.
- b. Neither did Beckie understand her friend nor ~~she tried~~ **did she try** to understand her.
- c. Traveling alone isn't as fun as ~~to travel~~ **traveling** with friends.
- d. These jeans are both expensive ~~or~~ **and** outdated.
- e. She'd rather buy frozen food than ~~cooking~~ **cook** every day.
- f. This joke is neither funny ~~or~~ **nor** appropriate.
- g. Not only will they come here but ~~will they~~ **they will** also stay with me for a whole week!
- h. He would rather die than ~~would tell~~ **tell** them the truth.
- i. She finds James ~~not repulsive only~~ **not only repulsive** but also annoying.
- j. ~~Only not~~ **Not only** does he sing but he also dances at the same time.

Pseudo Conjunctions

Introduction

1) Conjunctions are words that link other words, phrases, clauses, or sentences together.

*Susan is an amazing wife **and** a wonderful mom.*

2) Pseudo conjunctions are other parts of speech that act like conjunctions:

a) adverbial conjunctions (also called conjunctive adverbs) are used to indicate a relationship between sentences and independent clauses by comparing or contrasting ideas (e.g. *consequently, finally, however, otherwise, then etc.*). We usually use commas to separate an adverbial conjunction from the rest of the sentence.

*John's mom wanted him to go to college. **Instead**, he took a gap year and travelled around the world.*

b) nominal conjunctions introduce or conclude ideas (e.g. *the moment, the instant etc.*). Nominal conjunctions function as nouns in a sentence.

*I was petrified **the moment** I heard the news.*

c) verbal conjunctions are used to introduce additional information in a sentence (e.g. *assuming (that), given (that) etc.*). Verbal conjunctions are derived from verbs.

*Shall we go out tonight **assuming that** you are free?*

Short Story Dialogue

- *It's too hot today! I'm melting.*
- ***Given that** you don't have an AC at your place, you will be boiling soon!*
- ***Indeed**, I'm quite close to that. **However**, I'm trying to eat watermelons to stay cool.*
- *Does it help?*
- *Yeah! **In fact**, I'll be a watermelon myself soon!*

Independent Practice - Pseudo Conjunctions

1) Underline pseudo conjunctions.

- a. We can either go to the park or walk around the city. The weather's simply majestic.
- b. Every time I see Mr. Baker enter the room, I want to hide behind my desk.
- c. He stopped responding to our messages therefore destroying our friendship.
- d. Carol wants to move to California but she doesn't have the necessary funds.
- e. I freeze in fear the instant I see a spider.
- f. I want to bake a carrot cake. It's quite simple! In addition, it's a healthy treat.
- g. I must say that hiking and camping are two passions of mine.
- i. Greg knew that he made a mistake. Indeed, the feeling of regret didn't leave him for a minute.
- j. Max told me that he wanted to speak with you. Furthermore, he seemed really impatient.
- h. I'd rather stay here than go home right now.

Independent Practice: Answers - Pseudo Conjunctions

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