

# Conjunctions

Everything you need to know

# What is a conjunction?

A conjunction is a part of speech that connects different parts of sentences together.

Different types of conjunctions join different parts of sentences together.

Ex. The dog and the cat ran through the yard.

Ex. The students came into the classroom and sat down at their desks.

Ex. Paul and I wanted to go to the movies, but Teddy wanted to go mini-golfing.

# What kinds of conjunctions?

## 1. Coordinating Conjunctions (FANBOYS)

for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

These join equals to one another:

- words to words
- phrases to phrases
- clauses to clauses

Coordinating conjunctions go in  
between items joined.

Ex. Coordinating Conjunctions

- Most children like *cookies* and *milk*.
- The gold is hidden *at the beach* or *by the lakeside*.
- *What you say* and *what you do* are two different things.

# What kinds of conjunctions?

## 2. Correlative Conjunctions

either...or

both...and

neither...nor

not only...but also

These pairs of conjunctions require equal (parallel) structures after each one. They link alternatives or equal elements together.

### Incorrect Example

Clara *not only* wants money *but also* fame.

### Correct Example

Clara wants *not only* money *but also* fame.

### Correct Example

Clara *not only* wants money *but also* wants fame.

# What kinds of conjunctions?

## 3. Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions join two clauses together, but in doing so, they make one clause dependent (or "subordinate") upon the other.

[Click on this link for a list of commonly used subordinating conjunctions.](#)

These may appear at a sentence beginning or between two clauses in a sentence.

## **Example:**

It is raining.

We have an umbrella.

*Both of the above are examples of simple sentences (independent clauses)*

When you add a subordinating conjunction, you make one clause **dependent** upon the other:

*We have an umbrella because it is raining.*