

## Conjunctions

### What are conjunctions?

**A conjunction** is [a part of speech](#) that joins two words, phrases or clauses together.

There are three types of conjunctions:

Coordinating Conjunctions	Correlative Conjunctions	Common Subordinating Conjunctions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ for</li><li>▪ and</li><li>▪ nor</li><li>▪ but</li><li>▪ or</li><li>▪ yet</li><li>▪ so</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ either...or</li><li>▪ neither...nor</li><li>▪ not only...but also</li><li>▪ both...and</li><li>▪ whether...or</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ after</li><li>▪ before</li><li>▪ although</li><li>▪ though</li><li>▪ even</li><li>▪ though</li><li>▪ as much as</li><li>▪ as long as</li><li>▪ as soon as</li><li>▪ because</li><li>▪ since</li><li>▪ so that</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ in order that</li><li>▪ if</li><li>▪ lest</li><li>▪ even if</li><li>▪ that</li><li>▪ unless</li><li>▪ until</li><li>▪ when</li><li>▪ where</li><li>▪ whether</li><li>▪ while</li></ul>

### Coordinating conjunctions

Coordinating conjunctions, also called coordinators, are conjunctions that connect two or more equal items.

Examples:

- He plays tennis **and** soccer
- He works quickly **but** accurately
- You'd better do your homework, **or** you'll get a terrible grade.

### Correlative conjunctions

Correlative conjunctions are used in pairs. They work in pairs to coordinate two items. Examples of correlative conjunctions include *both...and...*, *either...or*, *not only... but also...*

Examples:

- I didn't know that she can **neither** read **nor** write.
- You can **either** walk to school **or** take the bus.
- **Both** Sara **and** James are invited to the party.
- **Whether** you watch TV **or** do your homework is your decision.
- **Not only** are they noisy **but** they are **also** lazy.

## Subordinating conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions, also called subordinators, are conjunctions that join a dependent (or subordinating) clause to an independent (or main) clause.

Examples:

- He reads the newspapers **after** he finishes work.
- **Even if** you get the best grade in the writing test, you'll need to pass an oral test.
- **Although** he is very old, he goes jogging every morning.
- She didn't go to school **because** she was ill.
- They went to bed **since** it was late
- **As soon as** the teacher had arrived, they started work.

## "So", subordinating conjunction or coordinator?

"So" is a small English word that can have different meanings. As mentioned in the table above, it is commonly used as a coordinator rather than as a subordinating conjunction. There are, however, instances when "so" may introduce purpose and in this case "so" is used as a subordinating conjunction.

Examples:

- "I took my umbrella with me **so** I wouldn't get wet."
- "I stayed **so** I could see you."

## Conjunctions Exercise

Choose the correct conjunction.

1. I did my best to pass my English exam yet / so I failed.
2. I will get my car serviced and / for there is something wrong with the brakes.
3. The suspect went to the airport and / yet tried to use a license that had his brother's identification on it or / but he got caught.
4. Nobody expected Sam to get the job nor / so did I.
5. We can go to a Chinese restaurant or / and a Mexican, I don't really mind.
6. It was raining heavily and / so we decided to stay at home.
7. Everybody was eager to participate the charity walk or / but the manager.
8. I got a seat in the front row for / yet I was really interested in the lecture topic.
9. My brother and / nor I will retire soon and go sailing around the world.
10. He can speak English so / and Spanish fluently, but / or his French is not so good.