

# 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. Remember how I said the two clauses are equally important, "They are both main peanuts in the {pakkie}!" 😊

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.

Remember how I said the two clauses are different in importance, the main clause can stand on its own and make complete sense." Only one main peanut in the {pakkie}!" 😊

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."

**Complete the sentences with one of the words or phrases:**

**however; as though; in case; to some extent; as soon as; considering; in order to; as long as;**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ hard he tried, he still couldn't understand the computer manual.
2. They took ice-axes with them \_\_\_\_\_ they needed to cut steps in the ice.
3. We have nothing to fear from our enemies \_\_\_\_\_ we keep our nerve.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ that this is Henry's first competition, he has achieved a very respectable score.
5. He became an American citizen \_\_\_\_\_ promote his business interests.
6. "It looks \_\_\_\_\_ the same man committed both crimes." said the inspector.
7. While I accept your arguments \_\_\_\_\_, I cannot support the action you are taking.
8. " \_\_\_\_\_ the enemy crosses the stream, open fire!" said the captain.

**Answers:**

1. *However*
2. *In case*
3. *As long as*
4. *Considering*
5. *In order to*
6. *As though*
7. *To some extent*
8. *As soon as*