

Coordinating Conjunctions and the Relationships They Express  
 Subordinating Conjunctions and the Relationships They Express

COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS AND THE RELATIONSHIPS THEY EXPRESS		99
RELATIONSHIPS	WORDS	
addition	<i>and</i>	
contrast	<i>but, yet</i>	
result or effect	<i>so</i>	
reason or choice	<i>for</i>	
choice	<i>or</i>	
negative choice	<i>nor</i>	

SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS AND THE RELATIONSHIPS THEY EXPRESS		101
RELATIONSHIPS	WORDS	
time	<i>after, before, once, since, until, when, whenever, while</i>	
reason or cause	<i>as, because, since</i>	
purpose or result	<i>in order that, so, so that, that</i>	
condition	<i>if, even if, provided that, unless</i>	
contrast	<i>although, even though, though, whereas</i>	
location	<i>where, wherever</i>	
choice	<i>rather than, whether</i>	

# Conjunctions

## 1. Coordinate conjunctions join main clauses:

for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so (FANBOYS)

Ex: She walked into the kitchen, and she found Grandpa snoring.

## 2. Subordinate conjunctions begin subordinate clauses (dependent clauses):

after, although, as, as if, because, since, though, when, whenever, while, if, so that, until, where, whereas, wherever, whether, before, how, in order that, provided (that), unless.

Ex: When she entered the room, they rose.

Relative pronouns function like subordinate conjunctions (they begin dependent clauses): who, whom, which, that, whomever, whomsoever, whose, what.

## 3. Adverbial conjunctions are sentence modifiers; moreover, they function best in sentences containing two main clauses.

however, moreover, consequently, nevertheless, in fact, meanwhile, also, besides, furthermore, indeed, likewise, nonetheless, similarly, then, therefore, thus.

Ex: We lost the address; however, we saw the lighted front porch.

Remember: A comma follows an introductory adverbial clause.

## 4. Correlative conjunction is a pair of words that joins equivalent grammatical structures:

Either. . . or, Neither. . . nor, Both. . . and, Not only. . . but also.

Ex: Either the boy or the girls are responsible for this mess.

## Recognizing conjunctions

A **conjunction** connects words, phrases, or clauses. **Coordinating conjunctions** join two or more grammatically equivalent structures.

### COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

and	or	for
but	nor	so
		yet

*And, but, yet, or, and nor* can join structures of any kind: two or more nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, phrases, and all types of clauses.

Joe is majoring in Computer Technology **and** Engineering. [nouns]

He finds his course interesting **but** demanding. [adjectives]

In his spare time, he works on his car, **and** he helps care for his grandfather. [independent clauses]

*For* and *so* can connect only independent clauses.

Joe helps his grandfather, *for* he does not want the man to move to a nursing home.

**Correlative conjunctions** function in pairs, joining equivalent grammatical constructions.

### CORRELATIVE CONJUNCTIONS

both ... and	neither ... nor
either ... or	not only ... but (also)
whether ... or	

*Both* the United States *and* the Soviet Union are worried about nuclear proliferation.

**Subordinating conjunctions** begin certain dependent clauses that function as modifiers.

### SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

after	even though	though	where
although	if	unless	wherever
as	once	until	whether
because	since	when	while
before	so that	whenever	

*Because* of the unpredictability of hurricanes, many lives are lost each year. People sometimes refuse to evacuate *although* they are warned in plenty of time.

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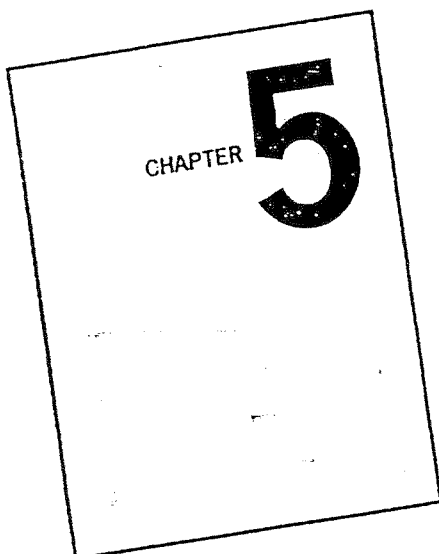
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# Combining Sentences: A Review of Your Options

Combining sentences helps you to avoid a choppy writing style in which all your sentences are short. The pattern of one short sentence after another makes writing repetitive and boring. When you mix the length of sentences, using some long ones and some short ones, you use a strategy called **sentence variety**.

You can develop a style that includes sentence variety by combining short, related sentences clearly and smoothly. There are several ways to combine sentences. The following chart helps you to see them all, at a glance. It also includes the punctuation necessary for each combination.

### Infobox

#### Options for Combining Sentences

		Coordination	
<b>Option 1</b> Independent clause	{ , and , but , or , nor , for , yet , so }		independent clause.
<b>Option 2</b> Independent clause	;	{ ; also, ; anyway, ; as a result, ; besides, ; certainly, ; consequently, ; finally, ; furthermore, ; however, ; in addition, ; incidentally, }	independent clause.

Option 5 (continued)	How If In order that Since That Though Unless Until What Whatever When Whenever Where Whereas Whether Which Whichever While Who Whoever Whose	Dependent clause, independent clause. (When you begin with a dependent clause, put a comma at the end of the dependent clause.)
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**Exercise 1** Combining Simple Sentences

Practice Following are pairs of simple sentences. Combine each pair of sentences into one clear, smooth sentence. Create two new combinations for each pairing. The first one is done for you.

1. My car wouldn't start yesterday.  
The car battery was dead.

combination 1: My car wouldn't start yesterday because the battery was dead.

combination 2: The car battery was dead; as a result, my car wouldn't start yesterday.

2. Stephen had a hard time with calculus.  
Stephen managed to earn a C in the class.

combination 1: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

combination 2: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. I balanced myself on the very top of the ladder.  
I lost my footing and fell.

**Option 3**  
Independent clause

- ; indeed,
- ; in fact,
- ; instead,
- ; likewise
- ; meanwhile,
- ; moreover,
- ; nevertheless,
- ; next
- ; now
- ; on the other hand,
- ; otherwise,
- ; similarly,
- ; still
- ; then
- ; therefore,
- ; thus
- ; undoubtedly,

independent clause.

**Subordination**

**Option 4**  
Independent clause

- after
- although
- as
- because
- before
- even if
- even though
- how
- if
- in order that
- since
- that
- though
- unless
- until
- what
- whatever
- when
- whenever
- where
- whereas
- whether
- which
- whichever
- while
- who
- whoever
- whose

dependent clause.

**Option 5**

- After
- Although
- As
- Because
- Before
- Even if
- Even though

Dependent clause,  
independent clause.  
(When you begin  
with a dependent  
clause, put a comma  
at the end of the  
dependent clause.)

(continued)

R  
S  
G  
T  
R  
S

