

Conjunctions:

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The conjunction is the part of speech used as a “joiner” for words, phrases, or clauses in a particular sentence.

What are the Different Types of Conjunctions?

Conjunctions come in three basic types:

- i) The **coordinating conjunctions**,
- ii) The **subordinating conjunctions**, and
- iii) The **correlative conjunctions**.

Coordinating Conjunctions

Among the three types of conjunctions, this is probably the most common one. The main function of coordinating conjunctions is to join words, phrases, and clauses together, which are usually grammatically equal. Aside from that, this type of conjunctions is placed in between the words or groups of words that it links together, and not at the beginning or at the end.

Examples: For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So

Examples of use:

- Pizza and burgers are my favorite snacks.

In the sample sentence above, the underlined word serves as a coordinating conjunction that links two words together (pizza + burgers).

- The treasure was hidden in the cave or in the underground lagoon.

The example above shows how coordinating conjunctions can join together two (or more) phrases. The coordinating conjunction “or” in the sentence above links “in the cave” and “in the underground lagoon.”

- What those girls say and what they actually do are completely different.

In this sentence, you'll see how the same coordinating conjunction "and" from the first sample sentence can be used to link clauses together ("*what those girls say*" and "*what they actually do*"), instead of just single words.

Subordinating Conjunction

This type of conjunctions is used in linking two clauses together. Aside from the fact that they introduce a dependent clause, subordinating conjunctions also describe the relationship between the dependent clause and the independent clause in the sentence.

List of Common Subordinating Conjunctions:

- while
- as soon as
- although
- before
- even if
- because
- no matter how
- whether
- wherever
- when
- until
- after
- as if
- how
- if
- provided
- in that
- once
- supposing
- while
- unless
- in case
- as far as
- now that
- as
- so that
- though
- since

Sample Sentences:

- It is so cold outside, so I brought you a jacket.
- Because it is so cold outside, I brought you a jacket.

By looking at the sentences above, you will easily notice that a subordinating conjunction can be found either at the beginning of the sentence or between the clauses that it links together. Aside from that, a comma should also be placed in between the two clauses (independent clause and dependent clause) of the sentence.

Correlative Conjunction

The correlative conjunctions are simply pairs of conjunctions which are used to join equal sentence elements together.

List of Common Correlative Conjunctions:

- either... or
- neither... nor
- not only... but also
- both... and
- whether... or
- so... as

Sample Sentences:

- Both my brother and my father are lawyers.
- I can't decide whether I'll take Chemical Engineering or take Medical Technology in college.