What is a conjunction?

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Conjunction is the vital part of speech of English grammar that connects <u>words</u>, <u>sentences</u>, <u>phrases</u>, <u>or</u> <u>clauses</u>. They are used for connecting thoughts, actions, and ideas as well as nouns, clauses, and other parts of speech. Conjunctions are also useful for making lists. They beautifully join two things together.



The Glue in Sentences

Same is the case with conjunctions. When these conjunctions are combined with the other words, they make a sentence even more beautiful. There are three types of conjunctions:

- 1. Coordinating conjunctions
- 2. Subordinating conjunctions
- 3. Correlative conjunctions

1. Coordinating conjunctions:

Coordinating conjunctions are the simple and regular words which are used on a day to day basis. These conjunctions are considered as the coordinators which coordinate two words or sentences of equal acceptable status. There are seven words included in coordinating conjunctions. They are:

For:

"They do not believe in committing sin, for they are mighty".

And:

"Max and Jamie had lunch".

Nor:

"He did not sleep in the class nor did he finish his classwork".

But:

"He made many calls, but no one answered his call".

Or:

"Hector rode his bicycle or he went for jogging".

Yet:

"She reached home late night yet she was the first one to enter the morning lecture".

So:

"Marie could not sleep at night so she did not attend the school".

2. Subordinating conjunctions:

These conjunctions are also called as subordinators. These conjunctions club an independent clause to a dependent one and helps in putting up a proper understandable sentence.

The words used in subordinating conjunctions are 'as', 'because', 'after', 'although', 'how', 'if' and many more. Let's take a few examples to see how they are applied in a sentence:

- a) I have attained peace after you have saved me.
- b) It is because of you I have been able to go abroad.
- c) If you are travelling in a train without a ticket, you are apparently breaking the rule.

3. Correlative conjunctions:

These conjunctions are more like a pair. These pairs are moreover called as the tag teams. They are inseparable. If we try to exchange a word from one pair to another, things would get unaccustomed. They would not fit well . The pairs such as 'either/or', 'neither/nor', 'both/and', 'not/but', etc., fall under this category. Let's take a look at the following examples:

- a) Nathan either wants a car or a bike.
- b) She will have both cosmetics and pricey dresses.
- c) I am not in a mood to go shopping but I am ready for online shopping.



Hence conjunctions play a great role in English grammar, so it plays a role in<u>learning English</u> and communication skills also. Joining an<u>online English speaking course</u> will help you deal with various grammar topics which would really help you progress in<u>improving your English</u> and mastering the language.

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-By Chander Madan

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