

# Everything about conjunctions

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## Etymology:

Bridges connect roads and different paths. Likewise, in English grammar, conjunctions are used to connect different words and sentences. Examples include, 'and, or, yet, so' etc. They can be placed at the beginning of the sentences. Conjunctions are very important as they act as connectors, thus providing logic and reason to sentences.



## Types:

There are three main types of conjunctions

1. Coordinating Conjunctions
2. Correlative Conjunctions
3. Subordinating Conjunctions

Let's get into the details of the sub types:

### 1. Coordinating Conjunctions

Coordinating conjunctions, otherwise known as coordinators, do the job of combining two or more sentences of equal importance. Both the parts are required to logically complete a sentence. Conjunctions are highlighted in the below examples.

#### Example:

- a. He is wasting his money, **as** he has been gambling for too long.
- b. Robin plays first **and** then studies.
- c. Ron has a great stride, **but** he isn't quick enough.
- d. This is a useful formula, **but** very difficult to remember
- e. They play a lot, **yet** they always top in the class.



## 2. Correlative Conjunctions

Correlative conjunctions can be easily identified as they are always in pairs. There are officially six pairs of correlative conjunctions.

### 1. Either...or

Example: **Either** you do your homework **or** you will not watch TV tonight.

### 2. Not only...but also

Example: **Not only** is gas getting expensive, **but** also harder to get.

### 3. Neither...nor

Example: **Neither** the Indian cricket team **nor** basketball team is doing well.

### 4. Both...and

**Both** trains **and** buses are available for that location.

### 5. Whether...or

**Whether** you like it or not, you have to do it.

### 6. Just as...so

**Just as** many Indians love cricket, **so** many games are played here.

## 3. Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions have the role of joining independent and dependent clause. The most common examples include after, as far as, as long as, as though, so that etc.

**Example:**

1. He will come **after** work.
2. **As far as** I am concerned, the matter is not important.
3. I am okay with it **as long as** she is on board.
4. He was acting **as though** he was the King of the country.

5. He attacked **so that** his people will have peace.

COMMON SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS			
Time	Cause/Effect	Condition	Contrast
after	because	as long as	although
before	so	unless	even though
when	now that	provided that	though
since	in order that	so long as	whereas
until	as if	if	even if
as soon as	whether	while	whenever

## Test

### Practice conjunctions with the below examples:

1. She led the country \_\_\_\_\_ in economics \_\_\_\_\_ by her virtue.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ you win \_\_\_\_\_ you lose, your enthusiasm matters.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ we act now, the battle is lost.
4. Ranjit is tall \_\_\_\_\_ handsome.
5. Kathleen plays the guitar well, \_\_\_\_ her favorite instrument is the piano.
6. You can come to the meeting \_\_\_\_\_ you don't say anything.
7. I am not going \_\_\_\_\_ I get a promise from you.
8. You look \_\_\_\_\_ you are a ghost.
9. Every day he visits \_\_\_\_\_ calls.
10. Are you sure? You look \_\_\_\_\_ you are confused.

### Answers:

1. not only...but also.
2. whether....or.
3. unless.
4. and.
5. yet.
6. as long as
7. until.
8. as if.
9. or.
10. as if.

The above explanations and samples will make conjunctions very clear for you. Making your grammatical concepts strong is one of the basics in attaining [English fluency](#). Practice them daily and clear your doubts with the help of an [online English teacher](#).

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**- By Chander Madan**

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