

Constructing with Conjunctions

Coordinating
&
Subordinating



Dear Gina,

I am so excited to see you
this weekend! I can't decide
what we should do. I will let
you decide what we should do.
Do you want to go to a movie?
Do you want to play miniature
golf? Let me know!

Your friend,
Tara

Are there
any revisions
you would
recommend
to Tara to
improve her
letter?

Dear Gina,

I am so excited to see you
this weekend! I can't decide
what we should do. I will let
you decide what we should do.
Do you want to go to a movie?
Do you want to play miniature
golf? Let me know!

Your friend,
Tara

All of Tara's
sentences
are quite
short,
resulting in a
choppy
letter.

Dear Gina,

I am so excited to see you
this weekend! I can't decide
what we should do. I will let

you decide what we should do.

Do you want to go to a movie?
Do you want to play miniature
golf? Let me know!

Your friend,
Tara

Some of
Tara's
sentences
repeat the
same words.

Can we combine
these sentences
to form longer
sentences?

Dear Gina,

I am so excited to see you
this weekend! Since I can't
decide what we should do, I will
let you decide. Do you want
to go to a movie or play
miniature golf? Let me know!

Your friend,
Tara

We can use
conjunctions
and combine
sentences to
improve this
letter.

A **conjunction** is a word that joins two sentences or clauses together.



There are two types of conjunctions.

Coordinating Conjunctions

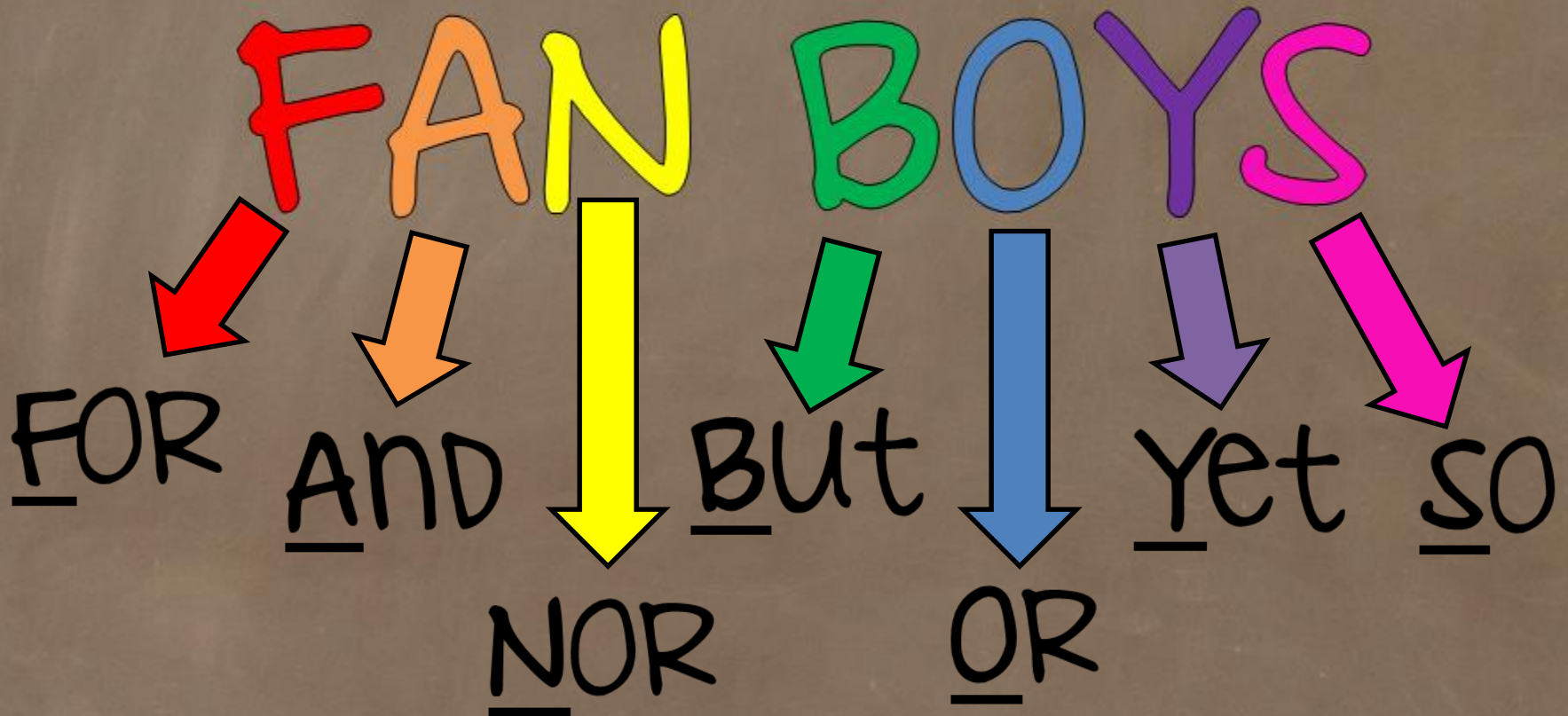


Coordinating
conjunctions
join words or
clauses.

There are
7 of them.

Coordinating Conjunctions

Remember this acronym:



Find the coordinating conjunction in the following sentence.

Ben was tired and sunburned after his day at the beach.

Is the conjunction joining
two words or two clauses?

two words

Find the coordinating conjunction in the following sentence.

Abby was tired, yet she wasn't able to fall asleep.

Is the conjunction joining
two words or two clauses?

two clauses

Find the coordinating conjunction in the following sentence.

Mrs. Benson is neither patient
nor affectionate.

Is the conjunction joining
two words or two clauses?

two words

Find the coordinating conjunction in the following sentence.

Kara is older than Meg, **but**
Meg is taller.

Is the conjunction joining
two words or two clauses?

two clauses

Find the coordinating conjunction in the following sentence.

The child began to cry, **for** she had lost sight of her mother.

Is the conjunction joining
two words or two clauses?

two clauses

Find the coordinating conjunction in the following sentence.

Would you describe yourself as optimistic or pessimistic?

Is the conjunction joining
two words or two clauses?

two words

Did you notice anything special about the sentences that joined *clauses*?



Abby was tired, yet she
wasn't able to fall asleep.

Kara is older than Meg,
but Meg is taller.

The child began to cry,
for she had lost sight of
her mother.

A comma is placed before the conjunction.

Combine these two sentences, using a coordinating conjunction.

Joe is tall.

Joe is friendly.

Joe is tall and
friendly.

Combine these two sentences, using a coordinating conjunction.

Sam ran as fast as he could.

Sam didn't win the race.

DID YOU
REMEMBER TO
USE A COMMA?



Sam ran as fast as he could,
but he didn't win the race.

(You could also use the conjunction "yet".)

Combine these two sentences, using a coordinating conjunction.

Sara arrived early.

Sara read a book.

Did you
remember to
use a comma?

Sara arrived early, so
she read a book.

Combine these two sentences, using a coordinating conjunction.

Are you going to order a
hamburger?

Are you going to order a hot dog?

Are you going to order a
hamburger or a hot dog?

(You might also use the conjunction "and".)

Combine these two sentences, using the coordinating conjunction "nor".

Kylie didn't sing.
Kylie didn't dance.

Kylie neither sang nor danced.

Combine these two sentences, using the coordinating conjunction "for".

Preston didn't eat.

Preston wasn't feeling well.

DID YOU
REMEMBER TO
USE A COMMA?



Preston didn't eat, for
he wasn't feeling well.

Combine these two sentences, using a coordinating conjunction.

I refuse to eat tomatoes.

I will eat ketchup.

DID YOU
REMEMBER TO
USE A COMMA?



I refuse to eat tomatoes,
yet I will eat ketchup.

(You could also use the conjunction "but".)

Combine these two sentences, using a coordinating conjunction.

May I make cupcakes for Anna's birthday?

May I deliver the cupcakes to Anna's house?

May I make cupcakes for Anna's birthday, and then deliver them to her house?

Let's take a look at the other
type of conjunction...



the
subordinating
conjunction.

Subordinating Conjunctions



Subordinating conjunctions join a subordinate clause to a main clause.

Don't worry... that *sounds*
way more confusing than
it actually *is!*



Subordinating Conjunctions

join a subordinate clause to a main clause.

Think of the main clause as a nurse in a hospital. She can stand alone without the help of others.



Think of the subordinate clause as a patient with a broken leg. She cannot stand alone. She needs the help of the nurse, or main clause, to stand.

After the movie was over,
we went to Dairy Queen.

Which part of the sentence is the main clause that can stand alone and it would still be a complete sentence?

We went to Dairy Queen.

After the movie was over,
we went to Dairy Queen.

Which part of the sentence is the subordinate clause that cannot stand alone and still be a sentence?

After the movie was over

(This is a *fragment*, not a complete sentence!)

As soon as you finish painting,
I need to clean the brushes.

Which part of the sentence is the
main clause?

I need to clean the brushes.

Which part of the sentence is the
subordinate clause?

As soon as you finish painting

I am going to tell the teacher
unless you apologize right now.

Which part of the sentence is the
main clause?

I am going to tell the teacher.

Which part of the sentence is the
subordinate clause?

Unless you apologize right now

You need to finish your homework
while I am cooking supper.

Which part of the sentence is the
main clause?

Which part of the sentence is the
subordinate clause?

If I don't clean my room,
I will be in big trouble with my mom.

Which part of the sentence is the
main clause?

Which part of the sentence is the
subordinate clause?

Subordinating Conjunctions

These are some of the most common subordinating conjunctions:

after

although

as

as if

as long as

as much as

as soon as

as though

because

before

even if

even though

if

in order that

since

so that

than

that

though

unless

until

when

whenever

where

wherever

whether

while

Subordinating Conjunctions

Let's return to our previous sentences and find the conjunctions.

After the movie was over, we went to Dairy Queen.

As soon as we finish painting, I need to clean the brushes.

I am going to tell the teacher unless you apologize right now.

You need to finish your homework while I am cooking supper.

If I don't clean my room, I will be in big trouble with my mom.

Did you notice anything special about the sentences that *begin* with subordinating conjunctions?

After the movie was over, we went to Dairy Queen.

As soon as we finish painting, I need to clean the brushes.

If I don't clean my room, I will be in big trouble with my mom.



When the subordinate clause begins a sentence, a comma is placed at the end of the subordinate clause.

Did you notice anything special about the sentences that *begin* with a main clause?

I am going to tell the teacher unless you apologize right now.

You need to finish your homework while I am cooking supper.



When a main clause begins a sentence, there is usually NO comma placed between the clauses.

Combine these two sentences, using a subordinating conjunction.

Noah was absent three days last week.
Noah scored an A on his science test
today.

Even though Noah was absent three
days last week, he scored an A on his
science test today.

(There are other options, too. What is *another* way to
correctly combine these sentences?)

Combine these two sentences, using a subordinating conjunction.

Wash your hands.

Do it before you start making cookies.

Wash your hands before you start making cookies.

OR

Before you start making cookies, wash your hands.

(Are there *other* ways to correctly combine these sentences?)

Combine these two sentences, using a subordinating conjunction.

I twisted my ankle.
Someone left a ball on the step.

I twisted my ankle because someone
left a ball on the step.

OR

Because someone left a ball on the
step, I twisted my ankle.

(Are there *other* ways to correctly combine these sentences?)

Combine these two sentences, using a subordinating conjunction.

We need to order the pizza now.
The pizza should be delivered by 6:00.

If we order the pizza now, it should
be delivered by 6:00.

OR

The pizza should be delivered by 6:00
if we order it now.

(Are there *other* ways to correctly combine these sentences?)

Combine these two sentences, using a subordinating conjunction.

I don't want to watch a movie.

I suppose buying popcorn might convince me to watch a movie.

I don't want to watch a movie unless we buy popcorn.

(Are there *other* ways to correctly combine these sentences?)

Combine these two sentences, using a subordinating conjunction.

You can join us at the fancy restaurant.
You *must* use your manners.

As long as you use your manners, you
can join us at the fancy restaurant.

OR

You can join us at the fancy restaurant
as long as you use your manners.

(Are there *other* ways to correctly combine these sentences?)

Combine these two sentences, using a subordinating conjunction.

You are waiting.
You may use the iPad.

While you are waiting, you may use
the iPad.

OR

You may use the iPad while you are
waiting.

(Are there *other* ways to correctly combine these sentences?)

Combine these two sentences, using a subordinating conjunction.

I will say your name.

You will tell me the title of the book you are reading.

After I say your name, tell me the title of the book you are reading.

OR

Tell me the title of the book you are reading after I say your name.

(Are there *other* ways to correctly combine these sentences?)

Begin a sentence with the subordinating conjunction "whenever".

Example:

Whenever I am hungry, my stomach growls.

Write a sentence containing the subordinating conjunction "since".

Example:

I have been playing soccer since I was two years old.

Write a sentence containing the subordinating conjunction "whether".

Example:

I don't know whether I can trust you.

Write a sentence containing the subordinating conjunction "wherever".

Example:

Wherever the treasure is, I will find it.

Write a sentence containing the subordinating conjunction "until".

Example:

John is not allowed to play a hockey game until his grades improve.

Write a sentence containing the subordinating conjunction "although".

Example:

Although Diana recently moved here from Mexico, she speaks English quite well.

By Deb Hanson ©2015

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Deb-Hanson>

Credits

Most clip art by Graphics Factory

www.graphicsfactory.com

Roadblock image by A Sketchy Guy

www.graphicsfactory.com

Digital papers by Educlips

www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Educlips

Ribbon clip art by Tales from Outside the Classroom

<http://www.talesfromoutsidetheclassroom.com>

Fonts by Hello Literacy, KG Fonts, & DJB Fonts