

Coordinating Conjunctions

FANBOYS

Coordinating Conjunctions	Means	Example
AND	To suggest that one idea is chronologically sequential to another	Tashonda sent in her applications <u>and</u> waited by the phone for a response
	To suggest that one idea is the result of another	Willie heard the weather report <u>and</u> promptly boarded up his house
	To suggest that one idea is in contrast to another	Juanita is brilliant <u>and</u> Shalimar has a pleasant personality
	To suggest an element of surprise	Hartford is a rich city <u>and</u> suffers from many symptoms of urban blight
	To suggest that one clause is dependent upon another, conditionally	Use your credit cards frequently <u>and</u> you'll soon find yourself deep in debt
	To suggest a kind of "comment" on the first clause	Charlie became addicted to gambling — <u>and</u> that surprised no one who knew him
BUT	To suggest a contrast that is unexpected in light of the first clause	Joey lost a fortune in the stock market, <u>but</u> he still seems able to live quite comfortably
	To suggest in an affirmative sense what the first part of the sentence implied in a negative way	The club never invested foolishly, <u>but</u> used the services of a sage investment counselor
	To connect two ideas with the meaning of "with the exception of"	Everybody <u>but</u> Goldenbreath is trying out for the team.
OR	To suggest that only one possibility can be realized, excluding one or the other	You can study hard for this exam <u>or</u> you can fail
	To suggest the inclusive combination of alternatives	We can broil chicken on the grill tonight, <u>or</u> we can just eat leftovers
	To suggest a refinement of the first clause	Smith College is the premier all-women's college in the country, <u>or</u> so it seems to most Smith College alumnae
	To suggest a restatement or "correction" of the first part of the sentence	There are no rattlesnakes in this canyon, <u>or</u> so our guide tells us
	To suggest a negative condition	The New Hampshire state motto is the rather grim "Live free <u>or</u> die
	To suggest a negative alternative without the use of an imperative	They must approve his political style <u>or</u> they wouldn't keep electing him mayor

NOR	Its most common use is as the little brother in the correlative pair	He is neither sane <u>nor</u> brilliant That is neither what I said <u>nor</u> what I meant
	It can be used with other negative expressions	That is not what I meant to say, <u>nor</u> should you interpret my statement as an admission of guilt
	It is possible to use <i>nor</i> without a preceding negative element, but it is unusual and, to an extent, rather stuffy	George's handshake is as good as any written contract, <u>nor</u> has he ever proven untrustworthy
YET	meaning something like "nevertheless"	John plays basketball well, <u>yet</u> his favorite sport is badminton.
	meaning something like "but."	The visitors complained loudly about the heat, <u>yet</u> they continued to play golf every day
FOR	Its function is to introduce the reason for the preceding clause	John thought he had a good chance to get the job, <u>for</u> his father was on the company's board of trustees Most of the visitors were happy just sitting around in the shade, <u>for</u> it had been a long, dusty journey on the train
SO	Sometimes it can connect two independent clauses along with a comma, but sometimes it can't. For instance, in this sentence	Soto is not the only Olympic athlete in his family, <u>so</u> are his brother, sister, and his Uncle Chet
	where the word <i>so</i> means "as well" or "in addition,"	Soto has always been nervous in large gatherings, <u>so</u> it is no surprise that he avoids crowds of his adoring fans
	at the beginning of a sentence, <i>so</i> will act as a kind of summing up device or transition, and when it does, it is often set off from the rest of the sentence with a comma	<u>So</u> , the sheriff peremptorily removed the child from the custody of his parents.

