

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, nor 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, so 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, so it is no surprise that he avoids crowds of his adoring fans
	at the beginning of a sentence, so 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	So, the sheriff peremptorily removed the child from the custody of his parents.

