

CONJUNCTIONS

“Conjunction Junction, what’s your function? Hooking up words and phrases and clauses.” - Bob Dorough (Schoolhouse Grammar Rock)

Conjunctions join words, phrases, and clauses, and indicate a relationship between the joined words. They are the glue of sentences.

Co-ordinating Conjunctions:

- and, but, for, so, or, nor, yet
- These join words and phrases.

George wrote his term paper and Mel did her calculus homework.

Correlative Conjunctions:

- Correlative conjunctions act as co-ordinating conjunctions, but they are word pairs.

either . . . or	Either George or Mel washed the dishes.
neither . . . nor	Neither George nor Mel washed the dishes.
not only . . . but also	Not only George washed the dishes, but also Mel.
both . . . and	Both George and Mel washed the dishes.
whether . . . or	I don't know whether George or Mel washed the dishes.

Subordinating Conjunctions:

- Subordinating conjunctions join independent clauses with dependent clauses.
- Jason joined the navy. (independent clause)
- He discovered he was prone to sea sickness. (independent clause)
- **After** Jason joined the navy, he discovered he was prone to sea sickness.

“After” changes “Jason joined the navy” into a dependent clause. In other words, it subordinates the first clause to the second one.

after	because	if	than	when
although	before	rather than	that	where
as	even if	once	though	whether
as if	even though	since	unless	while
as though	how	so	until	why

Transitional Words:

- Transitional words can either begin sentences or connect independent clauses.

I wanted to bake a cake. (independent clause)

I had no eggs. (independent clause)

I wanted to bake a cake; **however**, I had no eggs.

- Both clauses remain independent.
- Remember to use both the semi-colon and the comma when you join sentences together with a transitional word.

also	furthermore	likewise	otherwise
anyhow	hence	meanwhile	similarly
anyway	however	moreover	still
besides	incidentally	nevertheless	then
consequently	indeed	next	therefore
finally	instead	nonetheless	thus