

Conjunctions

A. **coordinating conjunctions**: used to connect two independent clauses

Comes usually in the middle of a sentence, and a **comma** is used before the conjunction (unless both clauses are very short). They join individual words, phrases, and independent clauses.

Whereas coordinating conjunctions join **parts of a sentence**, the purpose of transitional words and phrases usually is to join two 'sentences'.

Examples:

We can draw lessons from the past, **but** we cannot live in it. [Lyndon B. Johnson]

The purpose of most computer languages is to lengthen your resume by a word **and** a comma. [Larry Wall]

And, but, for, nor, or, so, and yet — are the seven coordinating conjunctions. To remember them, the acronym FANBOYS can be used.

1. **F = for**
2. **A = and**
3. **N = nor**
4. **B = but**
5. **O = or**
6. **Y = yet**
7. **S = so**

B. subordinating conjunctions: used to establish the relationship between the dependent clause and the rest of the sentence.

Also called subordinators, introduce a **dependent clause**. These adverbs that act like conjunctions are placed at the front of the clause - and a comma is needed at the end of the adverbial phrase when it precedes the main clause.

Examples:

If the only tool you have is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail. [Abraham Maslow]

Some people make headlines **while** others make history. [Philip Elmer-DeWitt]

List of subordinating conjunctions:

Concession: **though, although, even though, while**

Condition: **if, only if, unless, until, provided that, assuming that, even if, in case (that), lest**

Comparison: **than, rather than, whether, as much as, whereas**

Time: **after, as long as, as soon as, before, by the time, now that, once, since, till, until, when, whenever, while**

Reason: **because, since, so that, in order (that), why**

Adjective: **that, what, whatever, which, whichever**

Pronoun: **who, whoever, whom, whomever, whose**

Manner: **how, as though, as if**

Place: **where, wherever**