

Conjunctions or Connectors

Conjunctions are words used as joiners.

Different kinds of conjunctions join different kinds of grammatical structures.

COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

Coordinating conjunctions join equals to one another:

Words to words, phrases to phrases, clauses to clauses.

Coordinating conjunctions go in between items joined, not at the beginning or end.

For example, the word **and** is a coordinating conjunction.

Example sentences with "and":

- We are hungry **and** thirsty.
- He asked us to clean our rooms **and** wash the dishes.
- John works as a teacher **and** Beth works as a nurse.
- The mailman is running away **and** the dog is chasing him.

There are seven coordinating conjunctions in the English language.

F = for
A = and
N = nor
B = but
O = or
Y = yet
S = so

Coordinating conjunctions always go between the words or phrases that they are connecting.

In the examples below, the equal parts of the sentences that are being joined are underlined. The coordinating conjunction is bold.

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Examples:

I will be late to the party, **for** I am working until seven.

Tom likes to read **and** write.

Sally does not like the mountains, **nor** does she like the ocean.

I wanted to ride my bike, **but** the tire was flat.

Fred wants peas **or** carrots for supper.

I love chocolate, **yet** I do not eat chocolate ice cream.

She was late to work, **so** her boss made her stay after five.

CONNECTORS OF CAUSE AND RESULT

Conjunctions (followed by a complete sentence):

- **Because, as, since.**
- **Therefore, as a result, consequently, that's why, for this reason, so.**
- **So** + adjective or adverb + **that.**
- **Such (a)** + (adjective) + noun + **that.**

Connectors followed by a noun sentence, a noun or a gerund:

- **Because of, on account of, owing to, due to, as a result of**

CONNECTORS OF ADDITION

Conjunctions (followed by a complete sentence):

- o **Moreover, furthermore, besides, in addition, on top of that, what's more; as well** and **too** come at the end of the sentence

Connectors followed by a noun sentence, a noun or a gerund:

- o **In addition to, as well as**
- o **Apart from, except (for)**

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CONNECTORS OF CONTRAST

We already know that sentence connectors are used to combine sentences. They also express the relationship between ideas. We can add variety and sophistication to our writing by using appropriate sentence connectors.

These are sentence connectors that join two **contrasting ideas**.

To show the contrast between two ideas we can use the following sentence connectors:

but
although
despite the fact that
however
nevertheless
despite
in spite of
yet

Examples:

- His rope was thin **but** it was strong.
- He is fat **but** he runs fast.
- **Although** the boy was injured, he didn't give up.

Nevertheless is very formal. In a less formal style, we can use conjunctions like **but** or **yet**. **Nevertheless** and **however** don't combine two clauses. They are used to emphasize the fact that the point expressed by the second clause contrasts with the first. In writing, they are separated from the rest of the sentence by a comma.

Examples:

- He says that he is a socialist. **However**, he owns three houses and four luxury cars.
- There was little chance of success. **Nevertheless**, we didn't give up.
- We went out **in spite of** the rain.
- **In spite of** having a headache, I enjoyed the film.
- **Despite** working hard, she failed the exam.

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GRAMMAR NOTES

In spite of is written as three words. It is the opposite of **because of**.

- She got good marks **in spite of** her teacher. (= She had a bad teacher.)
- She got good marks **because of** her teacher. (= She had a good teacher.)

Reference:

Recuperado y adaptado de: Sentence connectors showing contrast
Coordinating Conjunction: a partir de: <http://www.really-learn-english.com/coordinating-conjunction.html>

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