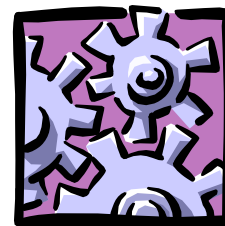


# CONJUNCTIONS

➤ **THESE JOIN WORDS IN THE SAME PHRASE OR CLAUSE:**

*bread and butter    white or black coffee*  
*The children were tired but happy*



➤ **THEY ALSO LINK TOGETHER WHOLE CLAUSES, AS IN:**

*The milkbar sold bread rolls but there was no supply of bagels.*

When joining clauses, conjunctions serve either to *coordinate* them as equals, as in the examples above, or to *subordinate* one to the other. Different sets of conjunctions are used for each type.

**1. THE MAJOR COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS ARE:**

*and but or nor yet*

In grammatical terms they link together main clauses. They appear at the head of a clause, and allow the subject following them to be deleted if it's the same as the one just mentioned. See for example:

*Marion came and (she) demolished the cheese cake.*  
*Others saw her at it yet (they) didn't intervene.*

Note that **conjunctions** like these can appear at the start of a sentence. They forge a cohesive link with the previous sentence while being grammatically unconnected.

*Others saw her at it. Yet they didn't intervene.*

Grammarians and some teachers have in the past objected to the use of but or and at the start of a sentence – presumably because they recognised them only as conjunctions.

**2. THE SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS INCLUDE:**

*how when where whether why while since as before*  
*after once till until (al)though if because for whereas*  
*than*

In general terms, these **conjunctions** link a main clause with a subordinate one that details some point in it.

Compound subordinating conjunctions include:

*as if    as though    as soon as    as far as    in case*  
*in order that    provided that    so that*

### 3. THE LOGIC OF CONJUNCTIONS

Apart from their role in sentence grammar, conjunctions relate ideas to each other, helping to show the logic of the information offered. In fact they express a number of logical relationships – addition, contrast, causation or circumstance (especially time). These logical meanings are embodied in both coordinating and subordinating conjunctions, as shown in the following table:

#### ADDITION

*and or nor*

**phrases:**

as well  
in addition  
in the same way



#### CONTRAST

*although but yet though*  
*whereas*

**phrases:**

against this  
by contrast  
on the contrary



#### CAUSATION

*as because for since so*  
*(that)*

**phrases:**

as a result  
because of this  
for this reason  
on this account  
to this end



#### CIRCUMSTANCE

*(al)though as since when*

**phrases:**

at this point  
despite this  
even so  
in that case  
in the meantime  
that being so  
under the circumstances  
up till now

