Coordinating and Subordinating Conjunctions



Conversation between two friends



Sanjay:I can play volleyball and I am trying to learn to play cricket now.

Abdul: I enjoy watching cricket matches, but I can't bat very well.

Sanjay: If we ask Sir to coach us, we can improve our game.

Abdul: We should practice before school starts.

Coordinating Conjunctions

Coordinating conjunction join two sentences, each of which can stand on its own and makes complete sense.

And , but, so, or are **coordinating conjunctions**.



Examples:

I can play volleyball and I am trying to learn to play cricket now.

I (subject) *can play volleyball* (predicate)
and (coordinating conjunction)
I (subject) *am trying to learn to play cricket now* (predicate).

Types of Coordinating Conjunctions

1) Coordinating Conjunctions of Contrast

Coordinating conjunctions of contrast show a contrast between two statements.

Examples:

- Rita’s proposal was not accepted, but she was not depressed.
- Nitin worked really hard for his exams, yet he didn’t score well.

2) Coordinating Conjunctions of Addition

Coordinating conjunctions of addition show the addition of a fact or statement to another.

Examples:

- Zaira plays chess, and her sister plays cricket.
- Lara likes to eat fruits, and Sara likes to eat vegetables.

3) Coordinating Conjunctions of Reasoning

Coordinating conjunctions of reasoning show that one statement or fact is inferred from another.

Examples:

- Naina is confident of winning the debate competition, for she has prepared well.
- He did not return the library books on time, so he had to pay a fine.

Types of Subordinating Conjunctions

‘that’

‘that’ introduces a noun clause.

Examples:

Neha said that she wanted to learn classical music.
Ramesh said that he would go to the doctor before coming home.

‘if/whether’

The Subordinating Conjunctions ‘if/whether’ introduce a noun clause.

Examples:

Do you know if Pooja will play in today’s match?
We do not know whether he is participating in the debate.

when, whenever, before, after, since, till, while, as soon as, as

These Subordinating Conjunctions introduce an adverb clause of time.

Examples:

As soon as the mouse saw the cat, it ran into the hole.

The students were happy when the teacher shared the news.

She waited till her friend arrived.

'where/wherever'

These Subordinating Conjunctions introduce an adverb clause of place.

Examples:

She found the purse where she had left it.

He feels comfortable wherever he goes.

‘because, since, as’

These Subordinating Conjunctions introduce an adverb clause of cause or reason.

Examples:

Krish missed his classes since he had been unwell.

We could not meet Rajesh as he was away.

‘so... that, such... that’

These Subordinating Conjunctions introduce an adverb clause of reason or consequence.

Examples:

The girl sang so softly that we could not hear her.

It was such a hot day that we had to cancel our plan for the picnic.

‘so that, that, lest’

These Subordinating Conjunctions introduce an adverb clause of purpose.
Examples:
Varun is taking adequate rest so that he recovers quickly.
Mother drives cautiously lest she should meet with an accident.

‘if / unless’

These Subordinating Conjunctions introduce an adverb clause of condition.
Examples:

You can borrow the book if it is available.
They will not appoint him unless he has the necessary qualifications.

‘though, although, even if’

These Subordinating Conjunctions introduce an adverb clause of contrast or concession.
Examples:
Although the test was easy, Mayank could not finish it on time.

‘as... as, than’

These Subordinating Conjunctions introduce an adverb clause of comparison.
Examples:

Mita is as tall as her mother.
Ramesh is more impatient than Suresh.

Correlative Conjunctions

Conjunctions that are used in pairs are called **correlative conjunctions.**

neither ... nor **either ... or** **both ... and**

not only ... but also **no sooner ... than** **so ... that** **such ... as**

hardly ... when **scarcely ... when** **whether ... or**



Example:

My mother drinks either tea or coffee in the morning.

Navin is both a novelist and a poet.

Your Turn to Try

Identify the coordinating and subordinating conjunctions in each sentence.

1. I can’t play tennis because my racket is broken.
2. He can sing and play the guitar.
3. As we haven’t got any fruit we are going to the market.
4. My parents take us on trips even if the weather is bad.
5. We started out late from the house so we missed our bus.
6. The sun is shining so bright yet it is very cold this morning.

