14.0
CONJUNCTIONS

14.1
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Conjunctions join clauses, phrases, and words together to help make sentences.

14.1 Coordinating Conjunctions

Coordinating conjunctions join two words, phrases, or independent clauses (see section 5.4, Clauses) that are parallel in structure. The seven coordinating conjunctions are by far the most common conjunctions:

- and
- or
- but
- so
- for
- yet
- nor

- We shouldered our packs and set off up the mountain.
- Which costume do you want, ghost or vampire?
- I washed the dishes and my husband dried.

Also see section 17.6, Conjunctions at the Beginning of a Sentence.

14.2 Correlative Conjunctions

Correlative conjunctions use sets of words in a parallel sentence structure to contrast or compare equal parts of a sentence. Correlative conjunctions include:

- both / and
- neither / nor
- not or
- not only / but also
- whether / or
14.3 Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions are an everyday part of the language, but they may be difficult for you to break out of the surrounding clauses. They introduce dependent clauses and connect them to independent clauses (see section 5.4, Clauses). The first word of the dependent clause is the subordinating conjunction.

Here are some words and phrases that can act as subordinating conjunctions:

- after
- although
- as
- as long as
- because
- before
- even if
- if
- once
- now that
- though
- unless
- until
- when
- where
- while

As you can see in this list, subordinating conjunctions tend to help with things like the order of events, cause and effect, and conditional scenarios.

- Guthrie made breakfast while Sarah slept.
- *Even though* the weather was cold, they still went hiking.
- *Once* we emptied the house, the painters began.
- Some subordinating conjunctions, such as *since, as, before, if, and when*, can be modified by an adverb (see section 12.0, Adverbs).
- *Just as* we arrived at the beach, a storm moved in.
- I noticed the crack in the cup *right before* I saw the leaking coffee.