

Conjunctions

I- Definition: A *conjunction* connects individual words or groups of words.

Examples:

- Don likes swimming **and** snowboarding.
- I was going to take a taxi, **but** I decided to walk.

II- Kinds

1. Coordinating Conjunctions: They connect words or group of words that perform the same function in a sentence. The coordinating conjunctions are *and, but, for, nor, or, yet, and so*.

Coordinating conjunctions connect sentence elements, such as nouns, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, verb phrases, and prepositional phrases.

Example:

- I saw a passenger plane **and** a jet fighter.

A coordinating conjunction may also join two or more independent clauses, which are groups of words that can stand by themselves as sentences.

Example:

- Mother will meet you at the gate, **or** you can walk home.

Each coordinating conjunction shows a different relationship between the words that it connects. Conjunctions help you to avoid repetition by bringing separate itmes together into one sentence.

Example:

- Karl is a student. Jason is a student / Karl **and** Jason are students.

2. Correlative Conjunctions: They consist of two or more words that work together as a set. Correlative conjunctions function like coordinating conjunctions because they connect words that perform equal functions in a sentence. The correlative conjunctions are the following: *either...or, neither...nor, both...and, whether...or, not only...but (also)*.

Examples:

- We had **both** wind **and** rain.
- **Not only** were we lost, **but** we were (**also**) without supplies.

3. Conjunctive adverbs: They function as coordinating conjunction. Conjunctive adverbs usually connect independent clauses. A *semicolon precedes* the conjunctive adverb, and a *comma usually follows* it.

Examples:

- **Conjunctive Adverb:** Many birds have pleasant calls; **however**, the nightingale's song is the loveliest.
- **Coordinating Conjunction:** Many birds have a pleasant call, **but** the nightingale's song is the loveliest.

The following list contains frequently used conjunctive adverbs: *accordingly, also, besides, consequently, finally, furthermore, however, indeed, instead, later, moreover, nevertheless, otherwise, still, therefore, thus*.

4. Subordinating Conjunctions: introduce subordinate clauses, which are clauses that cannot stand alone as complete sentences. Subordinate conjunctions connect subordinate clauses to independent clauses, which can stand by themselves as complete sentences.

Example:

- Ms. Jameson got the job **because** she has teaching experience

Handout 1.4

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