

Coordinating Conjunctions

and	or	for	nor	so	but	yet
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Above is a list of the coordinating conjunctions. These are used to join two items/clauses of equal importance.

“and” (+) and “nor” (-) are used to show an agreement between items/clauses.

“yet”, and “but” are used to show a disagreement between clauses.

“for” and “so” are used to show a reason between clauses.

“or” is used to show agreement or disagreement between items/clauses.

Remember, when using a coordinating conjunction to join two *independent* clauses (complete thoughts) you must insert a comma before the conjunction.

Example: I want to buy the new jacket, but it is too expensive.

In this example, there are two independent clauses:

#1: “*I want to buy a new jacket.*” (complete thought)

#2 “*It is too expensive.*” (complete thought)

These clauses are separated by a *comma* and the conjunction “*but*” which is used to show disagreement.

Directions: Circle each independent clause in the sentences below (Some sentences may only have one). Next, say whether the conjunction is used to show an agreement, disagreement, or reason.

1. I normally like to run, but today I am walking.

agreement / disagreement / reason

2. I like strawberry and chocolate ice cream.

agreement/disagreement/reason

3. I am smarter than my brother, yet he still got a higher grade on the test.

agreement / disagreement / reason

4. I don't make good grades, nor do I try very hard in school.

agreement / disagreement / reason

5. It is raining outside today, so I think I will wear my raincoat.

agreement / disagreement / reason

6. He is always crying, for he is very sad.

agreement / disagreement / reason

7. I don't like yellow or blue

agreement / disagreement / reason

Directions: Now say whether the conjunction is used to show an agreement, disagreement, or reason.

1. and agreement / disagreement / reason

2. but agreement / disagreement / reason

3. or agreement / disagreement / reason

4. yet agreement / disagreement / reason

5. for agreement / disagreement / reason

6. nor agreement / disagreement / reason

7. so agreement / disagreement / reason

Directions: try to fill in the blanks using the appropriate conjunction. Use commas if necessary.

1. My dad _____ I are going fishing this afternoon.

2. The old man doesn't have much money _____ he always seems to have nice things.

3. Either we are going to win _____ they are going to win.

4. I don't have much time _____ hurry up!

5. He wasn't a popular king _____ all of his country men hated him.

6. I want to get there early _____ we should leave soon.

7. It doesn't matter whether they get the job _____ not.

8. We don't like red _____ do I like blue.

9. I ran after the cat _____ could not catch her.

10. We played very well _____ we still lost the game.

Directions: Now practice creating your own sentences using the conjunctions list above.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____