

ELEMENTARY UNIT 2

and, but and or

speakeout WRITING TIP

We use *and*, *but* and *or* to connect ideas in sentences.

We use *and* to connect two things.

*I like football **and** I like tennis.*

He speaks English and Spanish.

Don't use *and* to connect ideas in negative sentences – use *or*.

*I don't watch TV or listen to the radio in the morning NOT
I don't watch TV and listen to the radio in the morning.*

He doesn't drink tea **or** coffee NOT

~~He doesn't drink tea and coffee.~~

We use *but* to show contrast.

*I like football **but** I don't like tennis.*

She doesn't eat meat **but** she eats fish.

We use *or* to show an alternative.

At the weekend I play tennis with my brother **or** my sister.

Every Saturday she goes to the cinema **or** the theatre.

1 Match the sentence halves.

- 1 Marika gets up early on weekdays ...
 - 2 Salome studies French ...
 - 3 Do you prefer going to the cinema ...
 - 4 I love eating burgers and pizzas ...
 - 5 Ilya doesn't like playing football ...
 - 6 I don't like listening to pop ...
 - 7 Marc usually walks to work
 - 8 At the weekend, Helena meets her friends ...
- a) or classical music. I love jazz!
- b) but I know it's not good for me.
- c) or takes the bus – he never drives.
- d) or watching DVDs at home?
- e) and German at school.
- f) and goes to a cafe for lunch.
- g) but sleeps late at weekends.
- h) or tennis because he likes doing exercise alone.

2 Complete the sentences with *and*, *but* or *or*.

- 1 I have breakfast at 8 _____ 8.30 in the morning.
- 2 He likes his job _____ she likes her job.
- 3 Marcel doesn't speak Spanish _____ Italian.
- 4 Sarah has a bike _____ she doesn't have a car.
- 5 He plays the violin in the morning _____ the piano in the afternoon.
- 6 Mike likes Brenda _____ Brenda doesn't like him.
- 7 She has dinner in a café _____ restaurant every day.
- 8 James doesn't read newspapers _____ watch the news on TV.

3 Complete the email with the words in the box.

and (x3) but (x3) or (x2)

Dear Paul

How are you? My name is Isabel ¹ _____ I'm 25 years old. I'm from Barcelona ² _____ I live in Madrid. I'm a teacher ³ _____ I work in a big school.

I like cycling and swimming ⁴ _____ I don't like running.
I also like reading ⁵ _____ watching films.

At the weekend I usually go walking around the city then meet my friends. We always go to the cinema ⁶ _____ to a restaurant for dinner on Saturdays. I like going to restaurants ⁷ _____ I don't eat meat ⁸ _____ fish.

What about you?

Best wishes,

Isabel

4 You're going to study English in London next summer and live with a British student. His name is John. Write an email to John to say who you are. Remember to connect your ideas using *and*, *but* and *or*.

A photograph of Big Ben and the London Eye in London, England, positioned in the bottom right corner of the lined paper. The image shows the iconic clock tower and the Ferris wheel against a clear blue sky.

Plan your writing

- Think about the information you want to put in your email: details about your interests, routine, things you like/dislike.
- Remember to use an informal greeting and close.

Writing plan

- Informal greeting
- Main paragraph: Write about yourself – your interests, things you like and don't like, routine.
- Informal close

Check your writing

- Did you connect your ideas using *and*, *but* or *or*?
- Did you check your grammar and spelling?
- Did you find any mistakes?