32 Section 3 — Conjunctions and Prepositions



Co-ordinating conjunctions

Conjunctions are words that link clauses in a sentence. Co-ordinating conjunctions link two main clauses, phrases or words that are equally important.

- 1. Underline the co-ordinating conjunctions in the sentences below.
 - a. Melanie likes to play netball and cricket.
 - b. Laura paints murals, but she prefers to make jewellery.
 - c. Kamini was late for work, so she began to run.
 - d. Penguins don't eat sandwiches, nor do they eat ice cream.
- 2. Using the co-ordinating conjunctions in the box, complete the sentences below.

and	nor	but	or	so	Use each conjunction only once.
					only once.

- a. We could either watch a film, we could play a board game.
- b. It began to rain really hard, we got very wet.
- c. The brownies were good, the muffins were even better.
- d. Sam doesn't go swimming, does he go cycling.
- e. Oliver is going to the bank, _____ then he is going to buy a piano.
- 3. Join this pair of sentences using a co-ordinating conjunction.

I was really thirsty.	I drank a glass of orange squash.			
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Co-ordinating conjunctions might sound scary, but Grammagators are brave. How did this page go?



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Subordinating conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions join subordinate clauses to main clauses.

1. Underline the most suitable subordinating conjunctions in the passage below.

Ashley and Jason are twins, (although / because) they don't have much in common, and their hobbies are very different. Ashley likes to go to salsa classes, (if / whereas) Jason prefers skateboarding.

(Although / Whenever) skateboarding can be dangerous, Jason practises complicated tricks (until / unless) he finally gets them right (while / since) he enjoys showing new skills to his friends.

(Whereas / While) Ashley is dancing, she forgets all her troubles, so she feels much better after each session.

(**Even though / So that**) they have different interests, Ashley and Jason rarely argue and manage to get along most of the time.

2. The sentence below is incorrect. Rewrite it using an appropriate subordinating conjunction.

	My hamster has been acting very	strangely unless he ate t	hose mysterious berries.			
3. Join up the correct parts of the sentences so that they make sense.						
	My dog ate the sausages	when	I wasn't looking.			
	I was very full	while	the balloons popped.			
	Tim was startled	unless	I had eaten too much.			
	I'm not going	because	you come with me.			

Grammagators like subordinating conjunctions even though they can be tricky. How did you find them?

