

# Common Conjunctions And Conjunctive Adverbs

Adapted from *The Little, Brown Handbook*, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition, Contributors Dayne Sherman, Jayetta Slawson, Natasha Whitton, and Jeff Wiemelt, 2010, 233, 259, 342-344 .  
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## Coordinating Conjunctions

A **coordinating conjunction** joins words, phrases, and clauses that have equal grammatical weight in a sentence. A coordinating conjunction is also used to join two independent clauses.

### Coordinating Conjunctions

**For** – shows a reason

**And** – means in addition and is used to join or add words together in the sentence

**Nor** – gives a negative alternative

**But** – shows contrast and is used to show opposite or conflicting ideas in the sentence

**Or** – shows an alternative and is used to show choice or possibilities in the sentence

**Yet** – shows unexpected contrast

**So** – shows a result and is used to show result in the sentence

Example: Jake and Sara went out to dinner **and** to a movie.  
Bob graduates from high school next month, **so** he will move to Georgia in May.

## Correlative Conjunctions

**Correlative conjunctions** work in pairs to join words and groups of words of equal weight in a sentence.

### Common Correlative Conjunctions

*both...and*  
*either...or*

*just as...so*  
*neither...nor*

*not only...but also*  
*whether...or*

Example: **Neither** Tom **nor** Sue passed the algebra final.

## Subordinating Conjunctions

A **subordinating conjunction** is a word or expression that joins two independent clauses so that one is grammatically dependent on the other.

### Common Subordinating Conjunctions

*after*  
*although*  
*as*  
*as though*  
*because*

*before*  
*even though*  
*if*  
*in order that*  
*now that*

*once*  
*rather than*  
*since*  
*so*  
*than*

*that*  
*though*  
*unless*  
*until*  
*when*

*whenever*  
*where*  
*whereas*  
*wherever*  
*while*

Example: Shakespeare wrote Romeo and Juliet **while** he lived in London.  
**After** Bob graduates from college, he plans to move to New York.

## Conjunctive Adverbs

A **conjunctive adverb** is a transitional expression used to join two independent clauses. Conjunctive Adverbs must be preceded by a semicolon and followed by a comma.

### Common Conjunctive Adverbs

*again*  
*also*  
*besides*  
*consequently*  
*further*

*furthermore*  
*hence*  
*however*  
*indeed*  
*instead*

*likewise*  
*moreover*  
*nevertheless*  
*nonetheless*  
*otherwise*

*similarly*  
*still*  
*then*  
*therefore*  
*thus*

Example: Bob's leg was injured in a car accident; **consequently**, he was not able to compete in the state championship.