

# CONJUNCTIONS – JOINING SENTENCES

**“Conjunction, what's your function?”**

- Conjunctions are connecting words that join two or more sentences into a single sentence.
- They also join words, phrases or clauses.

**Examples of conjunctions:**

- **and**
- **although**
- **but**
- **because**
- **for**
- **however**
- **if**
- **or**
- **since**
- **so**
- **then**
- **though**
- **unless**
- **until**
- **when**
- **whether**
- **while**
- **yet**

## COMBINES A MAIN CLAUSE TO A SUBORDINATE CLAUSE.

- Dependent clauses, which cannot stand alone as a complete sentence.
- It must be joined to an independent clause to complete a thought

**Because** he studied hard he passed the exam with flying colours.

- Dependant clause: **Because he studied hard.**
- This clause **cannot stand alone** as a complete sentence.
- It starts with the subordinating conjunction "**Because**", making it dependent on the main clause for meaning.
- Independent clause: **He passed the exam with flying colours.**
- This clause **can stand alone** as a complete sentence.
- It has a subject ("**He**") and a predicate ("**passed the exam with flying colors**").

**Time:** after, as, before, since, until, when, while

- **Dependent clause:** **While** I was cooking dinner,
- **Independent clause:** The phone rang.
- **While** I was cooking dinner, the phone rang.
- **Conjunction:** **While**
- **Independent clause:** The players practiced
- **Dependent clause:** **Until** it was too dark to see the ball.
- The players practiced **until** it was too dark to see the ball.
- **Conjunction:** **until**

## **Cause/Reason:** because, since, as, though, although

- **Independent clause:** We stayed inside.
- **Dependent clause:** **because** it was raining.
- We stayed inside **because** it was raining.
- **Conjunction – because**
- **Independent clause:** He explained the lesson clearly.
- **Dependent clause:** **As** the learners took notes.
- He explained the lesson clearly **as** the learners took notes.
- **Conjunction – as**

**Contrast:** although, even though,  
while, whereas

- **Independent clause:** They played a soccer match.
- **Dependent clause:** **Although** a storm threatened.
- They played a soccer match **although** a storm threatened.
- **Conjunction:** **although**
- **Independent clause:** She enjoys drinking coffee.
- **Dependent clause:** **Whereas** he prefers tea.
- She enjoys drinking coffee **whereas** he prefers tea.
- **Conjunction:** **whereas**

## **Condition: if, unless, provided that**

- **Independent clause:** I will go to the movies.
- **Dependent clause:** **if** you pay for my ticket.
- I will go to the movies **if** you pay for my ticket.
- **Conjunction:** **if**
- **Independent clause:** You will not improve your marks.
- **Dependent clause:** **Unless** you study regularly.
- You will not improve your marks **unless** you study regularly.
- **Conjunction:** **unless**

# RELATIVE PRONOUNS AS CONJUNCTIONS – ALSO PERFORM THE FUNCTIONS OF CONJUNCTIONS

**Who, whom and whose are used for people:**

The man lives next door.

The man is a teacher.

The man **who** lives next door is a teacher.

**That, which and what refer to animals and objects:**

The car is parked outside.

The car is mine.

The car **which** is parked outside is mine.

## POSITION

- Conjunctions are usually found in the middle of sentences.
- However, certain conjunctions may be used to begin a sentence.
- **Although** she was tired, she stayed up late to finish her homework.
- When writing or speaking, try to vary your conjunctions.
- Avoid the repetitive use of conjunctions such as and, then or so.

# Activity:

**Choose the correct conjunction from the words in brackets to complete each sentence.**

1. I wanted to play outside, \_\_\_\_\_ it started to rain. (*but / because*)
2. Sarah studied hard \_\_\_\_\_ she passed the test. (*so / or*)
3. You can have tea \_\_\_\_\_ coffee. (*or / because*)
4. We stayed indoors \_\_\_\_\_ the weather was cold. (*because / but*)
5. He was tired, \_\_\_\_\_ he finished his homework. (*but / so*)
6. \_\_\_\_\_ you hurry, you will miss the bus. (*Unless / And*)
7. I enjoy reading \_\_\_\_\_ writing stories. (*and / because*)
8. We went to the park \_\_\_\_\_ it was sunny. (*because / but*)
9. I will call you \_\_\_\_\_ I arrive home. (*when / or*)
10. She was absent \_\_\_\_\_ she was ill. (*because / and*)

**Join each pair of sentences using the conjunction in brackets.**

1. I was hungry. I ate a sandwich. (*so*)
2. The learners were tired. They completed the activity. (*but*)
3. It was raining. We stayed inside. (*because*)
4. You must study hard. You want to pass. (*if*)
5. She enjoys soccer. She also enjoys netball. (*and*)

**Circle the conjunction in each sentence.**

1. We arrived early because the traffic was light.
2. Siphon plays rugby and cricket.
3. Although it was cold, they went swimming.
4. You may stay here or go home.
5. I smiled when I saw my friend.

**Write one correct sentence using each conjunction.**

1. because
2. although
3. unless
4. and
5. or

# Memorandum:

Choose the correct conjunction from the words in brackets to complete each sentence.

1. but
2. so
3. or
4. because
5. but
6. Unless
7. and
8. because
9. when
10. because

Join each pair of sentences using the conjunction in brackets.

1. I was hungry, so I ate a sandwich.
2. The learners were tired, but they completed the activity.
3. We stayed inside because it was raining.
4. If you want to pass, you must study hard.
5. She enjoys soccer and netball.

Circle the conjunction in each sentence.

1. because
2. and
3. Although
4. or
5. when

Write one correct sentence using each conjunction. (Possible Answers)

1. I stayed at home **because** I was sick.
2. **Although** it was raining, we continued playing.
3. **Unless** you study, you may fail the test.
4. My brother **and** I walked to school.
5. Would you like juice **or** water?