

List of Conjunctions used in English

Conjunctions join **words**, **phrases** and **clauses** together. This article provides a brief overview of the different types of conjunctions and their function in sentences.

1. Coordinating Conjunctions

- but
- so
- or
- and

Coordinating conjunctions join words, phrases, or independent clauses of a sentence together. They often link similar grammatical parts of a sentence together (parts of speech + parts of speech / phrase + phrase / clause + clause). Here are some example sentences:

1. We went to the park, **but** we did not have time for the museum.
2. She has to work late tonight, **so** she cannot make it to party.
3. Let's meet at the beach **or** in front of the hotel.
4. On Friday night we watched TV **and** a movie.

In a sentence, **Coordinating conjunctions** come **in between** the individual words, phrases, and independent clauses they are joining.

2. Subordinating Conjunctions

- after / before
- although / even though
- because / as
- if
- as long as / provided that
- till / until
- unless
- when / once / as soon as
- while / whereas
- in spite of / despite

Subordinating conjunctions join an **independent clause** (which contains both a subject and a verb and can act as a complete sentence) and a **dependent clause** (which also contains a subject and a verb, but is not a complete sentence). Here are some example sentences:

1. They went running, **although / even though** it was very hot.
2. We went to the beach **despite / in spite of** the rainy weather.
3. We decided to go to the cinema **because / as** it was too cold to go to the beach.
4. Monica lives in New York, **while / whereas** her brother lives in California.
5. He went to work **after** he (had) finished his breakfast.

6. He finished breakfast **before** he went to work.
7. I will go there **if / provided that / as long as** you go too.
8. I won't go there **unless** you go too
9. We can leave **when / once** you are ready.
10. You can't drive **until / till** you get your licence.

Subordinating conjunctions always come at the beginning of a dependent clause. However, **dependent clauses** can sometimes come before an independent clause (separated by a comma). So, we could write the above sentences this way:

1. **Although / Even though** it was very hot, they went running.
2. **Despite / In spite of** the rainy weather, we went to the beach.
3. **Because / as** it was too cold to go to the beach, we decided to go to the cinema.
4. **While / Whereas** her brother lives in California, Monica lives in New York.
5. **After** he (had) finished his breakfast, he went to work.
6. **Before** he went to work, he finished his breakfast.
7. **If / Provided that / As long as** you go too, I will go there.
8. **Unless** you go too, I won't go there.
9. **When / Once** you are ready, we can leave.
10. **Until / Till** you get your licence, you can't drive.

Coordinating conjunctions join parts of sentence that are similar whereas **subordinating conjunctions** often shows a contrasting or unequal relationship.

3. Linking words across sentences

Linking words across sentences always link a second sentence to an idea in the previous sentence. That means they come at the **beginning** of the second sentence.

- In addition, / Furthermore,
- However, / On the other hand,
- Therefore, / Consequently,
- First(ly), / Second(ly), / Third(ly), / Finally,

Linking words across sentences are used either for **contrast with the previous sentence** or for **continuing the same idea**. Here are some examples:

Perth is a nice place to live for many reasons including the fantastic summer weather and the beaches and parks. **In addition, / Furthermore**, there are a lot of pubs, clubs, restaurants and cafes to enjoy. **However, / On the other hand**, there is not much to do in winter when it is cold and rainy and not much fun to do outdoor activities. **Therefore, / Consequently**, if you are planning to visit Perth, it is best to come between November and April which is the hottest time.

Before you travel you need to think about a number of things. **First(ly)**, make sure your passport is up-to-date. **Second(ly)**, get some travel insurance in case something goes wrong on your trip. **Third(ly)**, make sure you pack a hat, a pair of sunglasses and some strong sunscreen for the beach. **Finally**, change some money into Aussie dollars before you leave your country.

Choose the best word or phrase to fill the gaps

We ate a pizza _____ a kebab. (BUT / AND / SO)

We had some cake _____ we didn't have any coffee. (UNLESS / UNTIL / BUT)

I had a headache _____ I didn't go to the party. (WHEN / SO / WHEREAS)

You can have a coffee _____ a tea but not both. (OR / TILL / BUT)

I can't come to school _____ I have an important appointment. (SO / BECAUSE / UNLESS)

I will call you _____ I get home. (AS / AND / WHEN)

_____ you do your homework, you will pass the course. (UNLESS / UNTIL / AS LONG AS)

I wanted to eat Japanese food _____ my wife wanted to eat Chinese food. (SO / WHEN / WHEREAS)

You cannot go into that bar _____ you are 18 or older. (PROVIDED THAT / UNLESS / AS)

She still went to work _____ she was sick. (EVEN THOUGH / UNTIL / IF)

Don't call me _____ you have finished your work. (UNTIL / WHILE / AS LONG AS)

_____ the bad weather, they decided to have a picnic. (BECAUSE / DESPITE / WHEREAS)

Wash your hands _____ you eat your dinner. (TILL / WHEN / BEFORE)

I did not have the correct visa. _____, I could not enter the country. (BECAUSE / AS / CONSEQUENTLY)

I like milk, butter, cream and yoghurt. _____, I don't like cheese. (SO / HOWEVER / AND)

He did not pass the exam because he had not studied or done his homework. _____, he did not go to school on the exam day. (OR / UNTIL / IN ADDITION)

You can have an ice-cream _____ you have finished your homework. (SO/PROVIDED THAT/OR)

_____ John was fixing the car, his wife was making sandwiches. (WHILE / UNTIL / DESPITE)

He could not get the job _____ his excellent qualifications. (BECAUSE / WHILE / IN SPITE OF)

I will love you _____ I die. (AFTER / UNLESS / TILL)

I had a shower _____ I got home. (BUT / AS SOON AS / UNTIL)

_____ you don't work hard you won't get a promotion. (IF / SO / AS LONG AS)

You won't get a promotion _____ you work hard. (WHILE / UNLESS / BECAUSE)

_____ we had no money, we still had a good time. (FINALLY / HOWEVER / ALTHOUGH)

ANSWERS

We ate a pizza **and** a kebab.

We had some cake **but** we didn't have any coffee.

I had a headache **so** I didn't go to the party.

You can have a coffee **or** a tea but not both.

I can't come to school **because** I have an important appointment.

I will call you **when** I get home.

As long as you do your homework, you will pass the course.

I wanted to eat Japanese food **whereas** my wife wanted to eat Chinese food.

You cannot go into that bar **unless** you are 18 or older.

She still went to work **even though** she was sick.

Don't call me **until** you have finished your work.

Despite the bad weather, they decided to have a picnic.

Wash your hands **before** you eat your dinner.

I did not have the correct visa. **Consequently**, I could not enter the country.

I like milk, butter, cream and yoghurt. **However**, I don't like cheese.

He did not pass the exam because he had not studied or done his homework. **In addition**, he did not go to school on the exam day.

You can have an ice-cream **provided that** you have finished your homework.

While John was fixing the car, his wife was making sandwiches.

He could not get the job **in spite of** his excellent qualifications.

I will love you **till** I die.

I had a shower **as soon as** I got home.

If you don't work hard you won't get a promotion.

You won't get a promotion **unless** you work hard.

Although we had no money, we still had a good time.