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Answer Key 14
Quick and Handy Grammar Review: Conjunctions

Conjunctions are words that join parts of the sentence. They may join two similar parts of speech, such as two adjectives, two verbs, or two nouns. Conjunctions may also connect two clauses. *Coordinating conjunctions* unite two independent clauses and *subordinating conjunctions* join one dependent clause and one independent clause.

### Coordinating Conjunctions:

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<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>but</td>
<td>or</td>
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<tr>
<td>yet</td>
<td>for</td>
<td>nor</td>
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<tr>
<td>so</td>
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</table>

To recall the seven coordinating conjunctions, remember the word FANBOYS [For And Nor But Or Yet So].

**Notes:**

- Do not begin a sentence with the coordinating conjunctions *and, but, so, or yet.*
- *For* is poetic. It means *because.* *For* is rarely used as a conjunction in modern English.
- *Nor,* used by itself, usually begins a sentence. It is usually followed by *do or does* and then the subject. ([e.g., I don’t like opera. Nor do I like chamber music.])
- As a conjunction, *yet* means *but.* It is used more often in writing than in speaking.
- Use a comma before the conjunction when 2 independent clauses are joined. You don’t need to use a comma if those clauses are short or if they have the same subject.

### Subordinating Conjunctions:

These words are often called *subordinators.* They are used at the beginning of a dependent clause in a complex sentence. Note that the order of the clauses doesn’t matter, but there is a comma when the dependent clause is first in the sentence (Subordinating conjunction S V, S V) and no comma when the independent clause is first (S V Subordinating conjunction S V).

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>after</td>
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<td>though</td>
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<td>although</td>
<td>if only</td>
<td>till</td>
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<tr>
<td>as</td>
<td>in order that</td>
<td>unless</td>
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<tr>
<td>as if</td>
<td>now that</td>
<td>until</td>
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<tr>
<td>as long as</td>
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<td>as though</td>
<td>rather than</td>
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<td>because</td>
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<td>before</td>
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<td>even if</td>
<td>than</td>
<td>wherever</td>
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<td>even though</td>
<td>that</td>
<td>while</td>
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</table>
Correlative Conjunctions:

Some conjunctions are used in pairs. They use parallel structure, which means that the same grammatical forms appear on each side of the conjunction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>both ... and</th>
<th>neither ... nor</th>
<th>not only ... but also</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>either ... or</td>
<td>not ... but</td>
<td>whether ... or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as ... as</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Examples of correlative conjunctions:

- **Whether** you *earn* an A *or* *get* a lower grade, do your best. [Each conjunction is followed by a verb]
- **Both** John *and* Bill are excellent tennis players. [Each conjunction is followed by a noun]
- **Neither** the professor *nor* the students understood the problem. [Each conjunction is followed by a noun]
- I *not only* *lost* the game *but also* hurt my ankle. [Each conjunction is followed by a verb]
- Professor Jenkins is *not only* patient, *but also* stimulating. [Each conjunction is followed by an adjective]
- Hector did *not lose* money at the casino *but* he *did not win* any either. [Each conjunction is followed by a verb]
- Barbara is *as tall* as Mary. [Two nouns are compared]
Exercise 1:  
*Fill in the correct coordinating conjunction in the blank.*

1. The rain is very heavy, ___________ the game will probably not be played.

2. John works in a restaurant on weekends ___________ during the week.

3. Sherry has a great job, ___________ she is a very unhappy person.

4. The sun is shining brightly, ___________ the picnic was still cancelled.

5. Rita is an excellent violinist, ___________ she will probably be chosen for the orchestra.

6. The security lines are very long at the airport, ___________ you should probably leave early for your flight.

7. I will not go to the game, ___________ I will watch it on TV.

8. Mary has six brothers ___________ eleven cousins.

9. I do not like pasta, ___________ I do like pizza.

10. Max loves San Francisco, ___________ he is thinking of moving there.
Exercise 2:
Fill in the correct coordinating conjunction in the blank.

1. Marsha doesn’t play jazz _________ the blues. She prefers hip-hop and rap.

2. John doesn’t like chicken. _________ does he like pork or burgers.

3. Sheila works hard, _________ she doesn’t make a lot of money.

4. The sun is very strong, _________ Jacob still won’t wear any sunscreen.

5. I love you more than anything in the world, _________ you are sweet and kind.

6. Would you like coffee _________ tea? I would prefer a cup of coffee.

7. Henry does not come from Mexico. _________ is from Belize. He is from Honduras.

8. I will go to Montreal _________ Quebec for the weekend. I’m not sure.

9. James is very tired, _________ he will still come with us to the movies.

10. Wanda is very happy, _________ she has finally earned her degree.
### Exercise 3:
*Fill in the blank using one of the subordinating conjunctions from the list. Use each word only once.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>in order that</th>
<th>as long as</th>
<th>whenever</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>because</td>
<td>where</td>
<td>than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>while</td>
<td>before</td>
<td>unless</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. I will never go to that restaurant again __________________________ I live.

2. __________________________ Jose needs help, he calls his two brothers.

3. __________________________ Sheldon works for the post office, he never works Sundays.

4. I would rather read a book __________________________ watch a stupid television program.

5. __________________________ Roger goes to Miami, he will buy a new bathing suit.

6. __________________________ travelers have time to pass through security, it is recommended that they arrive two hours before their flight.

7. I will not go out with you __________________________ you promise not to smoke

8. __________________________ Maria is an avid jogger, her sister Julia prefers just to sit on the couch.

9. I do not believe __________________________ Hector’s father is a doctor.

10. Maryam loves the city __________________________ she now lives.
Exercise 4: Fill in the blank using one of the subordinating conjunctions from the list. Use each word only once.

1. Bill will not pay $500 for a suit ______________ he can certainly afford it.

2. ______________ Juan is a very hard worker, his brother Luis is very lazy.

3. ______________ Samantha moved to Boston, she has been very happy.

4. I have prepared a summary chart ______________ you can understand conjunctions better.

5. ______________ he was driving to work yesterday, Jason got a ticket for speeding.

6. ______________ you had called me, I could have helped you.

7. ______________ Henry has a job, he can pay his share of the rent.

8. David walks around ______________ he is the president of the company.

9. I will stay with you ______________ hell freezes over.

10. My new puppy follows me ______________ I go.
Exercise 5:
Fill in the blank using one of the subordinating conjunctions from the list. Use each word only once.

1. I would not see that movie _______________ you gave me $100.

2. _______________ it is raining so hard, the game was cancelled.

3. _______________ Sam was driving to school yesterday, he saw an accident.

4. I will love you _______________ the end of time.

5. _______________ he is the manager’s son, he might still be fired because his work is so bad.

6. _______________ you need help, just call me.

7. _______________ Hank gets settled in, we will visit him.

8. I would like to drive _______________ take the bus.

9. I cannot go to that expensive restaurant _______________ you pay.

10. Leslie always drinks a cup of hot chocolate to relax her _______________ she goes to sleep.
Exercise 6:
Sentence Stems. Write conclusions to the following sentences.

1. I don’t like broccoli, but _____________________________.

2. Victoria plays the piano, and _____________________________.

3. Because it is so cold, _____________________________.

4. I really love the music of Beethoven and _____________________________.

5. Maya always studies hard for her exams, so _____________________________.

6. Lester works for an electronics store, so _____________________________.

7. Harvey is one of the best players on the team, but _____________________________.

8. Toronto is a very safe city, and _____________________________.

9. I don’t like your cooking. Nor do I _____________________________.

10. We will win the war, for we _____________________________.
Exercise 7:
Insert one pair of correlative conjunctions in the blanks. Use each pair only once.

1. Kenja is ____________ fast _______________ Martha. They have the same time in the 100 meters.

2. Vicky studies _______________ biology _______________ chemistry.

3. _______________ the professors _______________ the students like the new building.

4. Gino is _______________ a waiter, _______________ a cook instead.

5. I will go to _______________ Bermuda _______________ St. Thomas on vacation.

6. _______________ you stay late _______________ leave right now, I want to thank you for your help.

7. Henrietta has _______________ an MBA _______________ a PhD. That’s incredible.
Exercise 8:
*Sentence beginnings. Write beginnings to the following sentences.*

1. ______________________ because the weather is so bad.

2. ______________________, but she also loves to sing.

3. ______________________ because she is the best student in the class.

4. ______________________, or I may just stay home.

5. ______________________, but I got lost anyway.

6. ______________________, and he also owns two houses in the Dominican Republic.

7. ______________________, yet he still feels lonely.

8. ______________________, but her shirt was too small.

9. ______________________, and she also served excellent cheese.

10. ______________________, so she had to walk all the way home.
Exercise 9:
Combine the two sentences into one using the conjunction in parentheses.

1. My sister has many friends. She has not found a special one. [while]

2. John is only eight years old. He can play the piano very well. [although]

3. Alma ate the chicken and rice. She also ate two hamburgers. [not only … but also]

4. Ned is the manager of the bank. He doesn’t make a high salary. [though]

5. Gino ate breakfast. Then he washed the dishes. [after]

6. Barbara arrived at home at eight. Then she called her sister. [once]

7. Bill will work late. In fact, he will work until 9:00 p.m. [until]

8. I will never go to that restaurant again. I will live a long time. [as long as]

9. Hal studied a lot. He still got a very low grade. [even though]

10. Everyone likes Hanna. She is patient and relaxed. [because]
Exercise 10:
*Insert a conjunction in the blank.*

1. I love Hee Jin, ________________ she doesn’t love me.

2. ________________ Carlita studied all night, she still got a C.

3. You have worked very hard today, ________________ you should take the day off tomorrow.

4. Irene has a house in Sicily ________________ an apartment in Rome.

5. I will love you ________________ the end of time.

6. Carlo cannot go to the theatre ________________ you give him a ride.

7. ________________ John is very cheap, his brother Bruce is very generous.

8. ________________ I cleaned up the kitchen, I took a walk.

9. The professor cancelled the examination ________________ the students were all late due to the storm.

10. I will follow you ________________ you go.
Conjunctions

Answer Key

Exercise 1: Fill in the correct coordinating conjunction in the blank [and, but, so].
1. so 2. and 3. but 4. but 5. so
6. so 7. but 8. and 9. but 10. so

Exercise 2: Fill in the correct coordinating conjunction in the blank [yet, for, nor, or].
1. or 2. nor 3. yet 4. yet 5. for
6. or 7. nor 8. or 9. yet 10. for

Exercise 3: Fill in the blank using one of the subordinating conjunctions from the list. Use each word only once.
1. as long as 2. whenever 3. because 4. than 5. before
6. in order that 7. unless 8. while 9. that 10. where

Exercise 4: Fill in the blank using one of the subordinating conjunctions from the list. Use each word only once.
1. though 2. whereas 3. since 4. so that 5. as
6. if only 7. now that 8. as if 9. till 10. wherever

Exercise 5: Fill in the blank using one of the subordinating conjunctions from the list. Use each word only once.
1. as long as 2. whenever 3. because 4. than 5. before
6. in order that 7. unless 8. while 9. that 10. where

Exercise 6: Sentence Stems. Write conclusions to the following sentences.
Answers will vary. Suggested answers:
1. I don’t like broccoli, but [I do like carrots].
2. Victoria plays the piano, and [she also plays the guitar].
3. Because it is so cold, [we should stay home].
4. I really love the music of Beethoven and [Mozart].
5. Maya always studies hard for her exams, so [she gets excellent grades].
6. Lester works for an electronics store, so [he can get a discount on laptops].
7. Harvey is one of the best players on the team, but [he is very selfish].
8. Toronto is a very safe city, and [Winnipeg is, too].
9. I don’t like your cooking. Nor do I [like the way you talk].
10. We will win the war, for we [are strong and united].

Exercise 7: Insert one pair of correlative conjunctions in the blanks. Use each pair only once.
1. as ... as 2. not only ... but also 3. neither ... nor 4. not ... but
5. either ... or 6. whether ... or 7. both ... and

Exercise 8: Sentence beginnings. Write beginnings to the following sentences.
Answers will vary. Suggested answers:
1. [We aren’t going on the picnic] because the weather is so bad.
2. [Carla not only loves to dance], but she also loves to sing.
3. [Everyone likes to sit next to Lucy on exam day] because she is the best student in the class.
4. [I might go to the movies] or I may just stay home.
5. [I used the GPS], but I got lost anyway.
6. [Roger owns an apartment in Miami], and he also owns two houses in the Dominican Republic.
7. [Wesley has many friends], yet he still feels lonely.
8. [Sheila’s skirt fit perfectly], but her shirt was too small.
9. [Nikita served good wine], and she also served excellent cheese.
10. [Paula’s car broke down], so she had to walk all the way home.

Exercise 9: Combine the two sentences into one using the conjunction in parentheses.
1. While my sister has many friends, she has not found a special one.
2. Although John is only eight years old, he can play the piano very well.
3. Alma not only ate the chicken and rice, but she also ate two hamburgers.
4. Though Ned is the manager of the bank, he doesn’t make a high salary.
5. After Gino ate breakfast, he washed the dishes.
6. Once Barbara arrived home, she called her sister.
7. Bill will work until 9:00 p.m.
8. I will never go to that restaurant again as long as I live.
9. Even though Hal studied a lot, he still got a very low grade.
10. Everyone likes Hanna because she is patient and relaxed.

Exercise 10: Insert a conjunction in the blank.
1. but 2. although 3. so 4. and 5. until
6. unless 7. while / whereas 8. after 9. because 10. wherever