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Conjunctions are words that **link** other words, phrases and clauses together in a sentence.

Coordinating conjunctions link parts of the sentence that are **equally important**. In English, there are seven coordinating conjunctions - **and, or, for, nor, but, yet, so**.

And

Using '**and**' helps us to **join two ideas** together:

- *There is a house **and** a woodshed on the picture.*
- *Jonathan lives **and** works in Melbourne.*
- *Jane bought a new dress **and** a small bag.*

Note: If there are more than two items in the list, we can use '**and**' between the final two items in the list. We use commas (,) between the items:

- *There are two plates, two spoons, two forks, **and** two glasses on the table.*

Or

Use '**or**' to link **alternative** items, ideas and choices, or to speak about the **consequences** of an action or event:

- *Would you like tea **or** coffee? (You must choose one.)*
- *Should I visit Italy **or** France this summer? (You must choose one.)*
- *The weather is bad. Put on your hat, **or** you may catch a cold. (Bad consequence)*

For

Use '**for**' to show that one part of the sentence is the **reason** or **purpose** of the other (similar to 'because'):

- *I visit this cafe every morning, **for** I like the coffee they make.*
- *Peter often buys new books, **for** he enjoys reading.*
- *Jane and Michael went to Rome, **for** it was their five-year anniversary.*

Nor

Use '**nor**' to join two statements that **both** show things or ideas that are **not true** or **didn't happen**. The verb in the part of the sentence after 'nor' should have a positive form, and the word order in this part should be inverted like a question:

- *I don't like fishing, **nor** do I go hunting.*
- *Jack can't play any musical instruments, **nor** can he dance.*
- *Mary doesn't feel well today, **nor** does her younger sister Cindy.*

But

Use '**but**' to **contrast** two ideas, or join a negative statement to a positive statement:

- *The weather is bad, **but** we can go for a walk anyway.*
- *Kate loves soap operas, **but** hates sports shows.*
- *My friends went on holiday, **but** they didn't enjoy it.*

Yet

Use '**yet**' to show a **contrasting idea** that **follows** the first idea logically. It is similar to '**but**':

- *This meal is tasty **yet** a bit spicy for me.*
- *Tom likes his new job, **yet** he misses his old colleagues.*
- *They planned to go to the cinema, **yet** they preferred the theater.*

So

Use '**so**' to show that **one part** of the sentence is a **consequence** of the other ('cause-and-effect' relationship):

- *The traffic is heavy on the main road, **so** the drivers are looking for alternative routes.*
- *I don't like eating out, **so** I rarely go to restaurants.*
- *This movie is long, **so** I bought some snacks.*

Watch this video to learn more about coordinating conjunctions:

See also:

[Correlative Conjunctions](#)

[Conjunctions of Contrast](#)