

Basic Connectors for COORDINATION:

Coordinating Conjunctions

and	but	for	nor	or	so	yet
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Pattern: Independent clause, **coord. conj.** independent clause.

*I finished my homework, **so** I will take a break.*

WATCH OUT! Compound VERBS do NOT take a comma: *I finished my homework and will take a break.* [no comma with *and*]

Conjunctive Adverbs

consequently	finally	furthermore	however	in addition	indeed / in fact
meanwhile	moreover	nevertheless	otherwise	then	thus

Pattern: Independent clause; **conj adv.** independent clause.

*I finished my homework ; **therefore**, I will take a break.*

WATCH OUT! Use a semicolon in front of a conjunctive adverb ONLY if it is between two clauses!

I finished my homework ; I will therefore take a break.

[the ; is between the two clauses, not in front of the conjunctive adverb]

Basic Connectors for SUBORDINATION:

Subordinating Conjunctions

* after	if	* when / whenever	relative pronouns who which that
although / even though	* since	* where / wherever	
* as / as if	so that	whereas	
because	* that	whether	
* before	unless	while	
* how	* until	* why	

[* these words are conjunctions only if they are followed by a subject and verb]

Patterns: Dependent clause, independent clause. [comma when the DEPENDENT clause comes first]

***After** I finish my homework, I will take a break.*

Independent clause dependent clause. [no comma when the INDEPENDENT clause comes first]

*I will take a break **after** I finish my homework.*

MEANINGS OF BASIC CONNECTORS

adv = conjunctive adverb / cc = coordinating conjunction / sc = subordinating conjunction

CONTRAST

however, (adv)
nevertheless, (adv)
but (cc)
yet (cc)
though (sc)
even though (sc)
although (sc)
whereas (sc)

RESULT

therefore, (adv)
consequently, (adv)
thus, (adv)
so (cc)
so that (sc)

CAUSE

because (sc)
since (sc)
for (cc)

EMPHASIS

in fact, (adv)
indeed, (adv)

OR = option (cc)

NOR = negative option (cc)

ADDITION

and (cc)
furthermore, (adv)
in addition, (adv)
moreover, (adv)

CONDITION

if (sc)
whether (sc)
while (sc)
as (sc)

TO PLACE IN TIME

as (sc)
after (sc)
before (sc)
until (sc)
when (sc)
whenever (sc)
while (sc)

UNDER OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES

otherwise, (adv)

TO CLARIFY (by relative pronoun)

who (person)
which (restrictive thing - commas)
that (nonrestrictive thing - no commas)