

Gellerisms

on Conjunctions

There are three families of conjunctions with which you must be *friendly*:

COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

or the “fanboys” – **for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so**

- Use a coordinating conjunction between two independent clauses. Make certain a comma precedes the conjunction.
- Use a coordinating conjunction at the beginning of a sentence for emphasis. When analyzing a critical reading passage, pay attention to any sentence BEGINNING with “and” or “but” because the author is making an important point about his subject.



CORRELATIVE CONJUNCTIONS

or **both...and, not only...but also, either...or, neither...nor, whether...or**

- Use correlative conjunctions always in pairs before similar elements to establish parallel construction

SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

or **after, when, since, because, if, although**, etc.

- Use a subordinating conjunction at the front of a clause to create a subordinate clause. The subordinate clause can come either before or after the main clause.
- Place a comma between the subordinate clause and the main clause IF the subordinate clause comes first in the sentence. Use NO comma if the main clause precedes the subordinate clause.

SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

TIME	CAUSE + EFFECT	OPPOSITION	CONDITION
after	because	although	if
before	since	though	unless
when	now that	even though	only if
while	as	whereas	whether or not
since	in order that	while	even if
until	so		in case (that)

Subordinating conjunctions, (subordinators) are most important in creating subordinating clauses. These adverbs that act like conjunctions are placed at the front of the clause. The adverbial clause can come either before or after the main clause. Subordinators are usually a single word, but there are also a number of multi-word subordinators that function like a single subordinating conjunction. They can be classified according to their use in regard to time, cause and effect, opposition, or condition. **Remember**, put a comma at the end of the adverbial phrase when it precedes the main clause.

EXAMPLES AND SENTENCES SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

CONJUNCTION	SAMPLE SENTENCE
after	We are going out to eat after we finish taking the test.
since	Since we have lived in Atlanta, we have gone to every exhibit at the High Musuem.
while	While I was waiting in line for the Matisse Exhibit, I ate my lunch.
although	Although the line was long and the wait over two hours, the exhibit was well worth it
even if	Even if you have already bought your ticket, you will still need to wait in line.
because	I love Matisse's works because he uses color so brilliantly.