

Conjunctions join together words, phrases, clauses, and sentences. There are seven different types:

1. A *coordinating conjunction* joins words that are grammatically the same:
They ate bacon *and* eggs.
I will go, *but* I won't participate.

The most common coordinating conjunctions are: *and, but, for, or, nor, so, yet*.

2. A *subordinating conjunction* connects subordinate clauses to main clauses:
Many people were at the airport *because* it was Thanksgiving.

Or it can introduce a subordinate clause:
Since John studied hard, he will ace the test.

The most common subordinating conjunctions are: *although, as, because, before, since, so that, unless, while*.

3. A *correlative conjunction* is made by pairing up two coordinating conjunctions:
Both your books *and* your notes are allowed in the test.
Neither your mother *nor* your father is available.

Some of the correlative conjunctions are: *both ... and, either ... or, neither ... nor, though ... yet*.

4. A *copulative conjunction* is an addition that is related to the first clause:
I ran the race; *moreover*, I won.

Copulative conjunctions include: *and, also, moreover, no less than*.

5. A *disjunctive conjunction* gives alternatives:
I can go to the party with my friends, *or* to the funeral with my parents.

Common disjunctive conjunctions are: *either, or, else, nor, neither, but, otherwise*.

6. An *adversative conjunction* makes comparisons:
The meeting was informative *but* disheartening.

Some adversative conjunctions are: *but, yet, nevertheless, still*.

7. A *final conjunction* shows consequences:
I failed the test, *therefore* I won't graduate.

Final conjunctions include: *therefore, consequently, hence, as a result, thus*.

One more note about conjunctions—despite what you may have heard, you can start a sentence with a conjunction. And that's that.