

Writing Guide: **Conjunctions**

Conjunctions are words that join words, phrases, and clauses in a sentence.

Coordinating Conjunctions

Coordinating conjunctions join ideas of equal importance or emphasis. There are seven coordinating conjunctions: *for, and, nor, but, or, yet, and so*.

Ex.: Each teacher told us to bring pencils and pens.

Ex.: The army won the battle but lost the war.

Ex.: He is unsure of the spelling, so he is consulting a dictionary.

Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions allow a writer to emphasize one idea more than another.

Here is a list of common subordinating conjunctions:

after
although (or *though* or *even though*)
as
because
before
if
since
unless
until
when
while

Ex.: After the rain stopped, we barbecued the chicken.

Ex.: Even though those days are gone, he still remembers them.

Ex.: If you keep a journal, your writing will improve.

Ex.: She gets good grades because she studies hard.

Ex.: We stayed in the theater until the curtain fell.

Ex.: The teacher graded papers while the students took a test.