# CONJUNCTIONS:

## Words that join elements of a sentence

| Coordinating | Correlative | Subordinating |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Joins phrases of equal emphasis: always appears *between* words/clauses  +  Main clause/word  Main clause/word | Pairs of conjunctions requiring parallel structures | Used to emphasize one word or phrase over a subordinate word or phrase (dominant idea over subordinate idea)  +  Main clause/word  Sub. element  OR  +  Sub. element  Main clause/word |
| For, and, nor, but, or, yet, so (FANBOYS) | Either… or, neither…nor, both… and, not only… but also | Examples include: after, although, as, because, before, even if, even though, how, if, in order that, once, provided that, rather than, since, so that, than, that, though, unless, until, when, where, whether, while, whose, why |
| When joining independent clauses, place comma before conjunction; otherwise, no comma is necessary.   * *Frank’s favorite food is ice cream, but he is lactose intolerant.* * *He hates pistachios but catastrophically loves pistachio ice cream.* | Punctuate using the usual rules regarding commas and independent/dependent clauses.  *Batman is either an amazing superhero or just a guy in tights.*  *He regards neither society’s rules nor its pants requirement.*  *Not only is he the hero of Gotham, but he is also its leading latex purchaser.* | When **beginning** the sentence with the subordinate element (subordinating conjunction + less important clause/word), follow it with a comma; otherwise, no comma is necessary.   * *Because Mary was tragically in love with Geraldo-, she alternated between elation and despair.* * *Her love transcended the bounds of fiction so that she loved the telenovela hero as if he were real.*   ***UNLESS*** a relative pronoun serves as conjunction: who, whom, whose, which, that  Essential Relative Clause: no comma   * *Rosie led a coalition whose goal was world domination.*   Nonessential Relative Clause: preceded by comma   * *The coalition grew ever stronger, which boded ill for Rosie’s friendly reputation.* |