

The Conjunction A

12d. A *conjunction* is a word used to join words or groups of words.

Coordinating conjunctions—*and, but, for, nor, or, so, and yet*—join words or groups of words that are used in the same way.

EXAMPLE Would you rather have shrimp **or** salmon for dinner?

Correlative conjunctions are pairs of conjunctions that join words or word groups that are used in the same way. The correlative conjunctions are *both . . . and, either . . . or, neither . . . nor, not only . . . but also*, and *whether . . . or*.

EXAMPLE **Both** Zina **and** Jada can play the mandolin.

EXERCISE A Underline the coordinating conjunction in each of the following sentences.

Example 1. The river flows through several states and empties into the Gulf of Mexico.

1. She didn't stay up too late, nor did she watch too much television.
2. The sun had risen, yet it was still too foggy to drive.
3. Arguments soon broke out, for the players had not agreed upon the rules beforehand.
4. The baby cried, so her mother comforted her.
5. Will you be taking the bus or riding your bike?
6. Terri picked the basketball, and Nikki picked the football.
7. I wanted to see the previews, but the movie had already started.
8. Rocco didn't think the joke was funny, yet he pretended to laugh.
9. He lifted the vase carefully, for he didn't want to break it.
10. Karin ordered a salad and a baked potato.

EXERCISE B For each of the following sentences, underline the correlative conjunctions.

Example 1. The child wanted neither food nor water.

11. They took vacations not only in July, but also in December.
12. She will neither take a cab nor ride the bus.
13. The team couldn't decide whether to practice more or take a break.
14. Both the team captain and the coach thought that the competition went well.
15. We will see either the new French film or the popular German film.