Conjunctions

I- Definition: A conjunction connects individual words or groups of words.

Examples:
- Don likes swimming and snowboarding.
- I was going to take a taxi, but I decided to walk.

II- Kinds
1. Coordinating Conjunctions: They connect words or group of words that perform the same function in a sentence. The coordinating conjunctions are and, but, for, nor, or, yet, and so.

Coordinating conjunctions connect sentence elements, such as nouns, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, verb phrases, and prepositional phrases.

Example:
- I saw a passenger plane and a jet fighter.

A coordinating conjunction may also join two or more independent clauses, which are groups of words that can stand by themselves as sentences.

Example:
- Mother will meet you at the gate, or you can walk home.

Each coordinating conjunction shows a different relationship between the words that it connects. Conjunctions help you to avoid repetition by bringing separate items together into one sentence.

Example:
- Karl is a student. Jason is a student / Karl and Jason are students.

2. Correlative Conjunctions: They consist of two or more words that work together as a set. Correlative conjunctions function like coordinating conjunctions because they connect words that perform equal functions in a sentence. The correlative conjunctions are the following: either…or, neither…nor, both…and, whether…or, not only…but (also).

Examples:
- We had both wind and rain.
- Not only were we lost, but we were (also) without supplies.

3. Conjunctive adverbs: They function as coordinating conjunction. Conjunctive adverbs usually connect independent clauses. A semicolon precedes the conjunctive adverb, and a comma usually follows it.

Examples:
- Conjunctive Adverb: Many birds have pleasant calls; however, the nightingale’s song is the loveliest.
- Coordinating Conjunction: Many birds have a pleasant call, but the nightingale’s song is the loveliest.

The following list contains frequently used conjunctive adverbs: accordingly, also, besides, consequently, finally, furthermore, however, indeed, instead, later, moreover, nevertheless, otherwise, still, therefore, thus.

4. Subordinating Conjunctions: introduce subordinate clauses, which are clauses that cannot stand alone as complete sentences. Subordinate conjunctions connect subordinate clauses to independent clauses, which can stand by themselves as complete sentences.

Example:
- Ms. Jameson got the job because she has teaching experience
Handout 1.4

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