ACDV B68

Helpful Information

Use the following information to help you proofread your paragraphs.

Subordinating conjunctions

(WABBITS)

A subordinating conjunction is a word that introduces an adverb clause. Here are some subordinating conjunctions:

after although as

as soon as because

before by the time even if even though every time

if in case

in the event that just in case

now that

once only if

since

the first time

though unless until when whenever

whenever whereas

whether or not

while while

An adverb clause is always introduced by a subordinating conjunction. A noun clause and adjective clause sometimes are.

Adverb clause: Before you go, sign the log book.

Noun clause: He asked if he could leave early.

Adjective clause: That is the place where he was last seen.

A subordinating conjunction is always followed by a clause. Many subordinating conjunctions can be other parts of speech.

Adverb: Jill came tumbling after.

Preposition: Jill came tumbling after Jack.

Subordinating Conjunction: Jill came tumbling after Jack had fallen.

Coordinating Conjunctions

The simple, little conjunctions are called **coordinating conjunctions** (you can click on the words to see specific descriptions of each one):

| Coordinating Conjunctions | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| and | but | or | yet | for | nor | so |

(It may help you remember these conjunctions by recalling that they all have fewer than four letters. Also, remember the acronym FANBOYS: For-And-Nor-But-Or-Yet-So. Be careful of the words then and now; neither is a coordinating conjunction, so what we say about coordinating conjunctions' roles in a sentence and punctuation does not apply to those two words.) When a coordinating conjunction connects two independent clauses, it is accompanied by a comma.

Correlative Conjunctions

Some conjunctions combine with other words to form what are called **correlative conjunctions**. They always travel in pairs, joining various sentence elements that should be treated as grammatically equal.

- · She led the team not only in statistics but also by virtue of her enthusiasm.
- Polonius said, "Neither a borrower nor a lender be."
- Whether you win this race or lose it doesn't matter as long as you do your best.

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both . . . and not only . . . but also not . . . but either . . . or
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