

Identifying Co-ordinating and Subordinating Conjunctions in Sentences

National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 2: [Use subordination \(using when, if, that, because\) and co-ordination \(using or, and, but\)](#)

English Year 3 and Year 4: [Develop their understanding of the concepts set out in English appendix 2 by extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including: when, if, because, although](#)

Differentiation:

Beginner Sets of two sentences using the subordinating conjunctions 'if' and 'as well as', and the co-ordinating conjunctions 'and' and 'but'. Aimed at Year 2 Developing.

Easy Sets of three sentences using the subordinating conjunctions 'because', 'if', 'as' and 'as well as', and the co-ordinating conjunctions 'and', 'so' and 'but'. Aimed at Year 2 Secure/Year 3 Emerging.

Tricky Sets of three sentences using the subordinating conjunctions 'unless', 'until', 'because', 'if', 'as' and 'as well as', and all the co-ordinating conjunctions 'or', 'for', 'and', 'nor', 'so' and 'but'. Aimed at Year 2 Mastery/Year 3 Developing.

Expert Sets of four sentences using a range of subordinating conjunctions and co-ordinating conjunctions. Aimed at Year 3 Secure.

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Identifying Co-ordinating and Subordinating Conjunctions in Sentences

Tick one box in each row to show if the underlined conjunction is a subordinating conjunction or a co-ordinating conjunction.

Sentence	Subordinating conjunction	Co-ordinating conjunction
I like ice-cream <u>and</u> I also like sweets.		
I like ice-cream <u>if</u> I have a cone.		
My mum likes netball <u>but</u> I like football.		
My dad likes netball <u>as well as</u> football.		
My sister likes jelly <u>if</u> she can also have a biscuit.		
My sister likes jelly <u>and</u> always puts a biscuit on top.		

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My friend likes blue <u>and</u> I like red.		
I like blue <u>as well as</u> red.		
My brother wants an Xbox <u>but</u> I want the PS3.		
My dad wants an Xbox <u>and</u> he wants a PS3.		
My granddad likes chicken <u>if</u> he can have stuffing.		
I like chicken <u>and</u> I love stuffing.		

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Sentence	Subordinating conjunction	Co-ordinating conjunction
I went for a walk <u>and</u> ended up running.		
I went for a walk <u>as well as</u> a run.		
It is sunny <u>but</u> not cloudy.		
It is sunny <u>as well as</u> cloudy.		
I won't play out <u>if</u> it is raining.		
I will play out in the sun <u>but</u> stay in when it rains.		

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Sentence	Subordinating conjunction	Co-ordinating conjunction
Jo likes school <u>and</u> enjoys learning.		
Jack likes school <u>if</u> he has no clubs.		
My mum bakes cakes <u>if</u> I am good.		
My mum bakes cakes <u>but</u> my dad doesn't.		
I have PE on Thursday <u>and</u> swimming on Friday.		
I have PE on Thursday <u>as well as</u> swimming on Friday.		

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My dad likes netball <u>as well as</u> football.	✓	
My sister likes jelly <u>if</u> she can also have a biscuit.	✓	
My sister likes jelly <u>and</u> always puts a biscuit on top.		✓

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It is sunny <u>as well as</u> cloudy.	✓	
I won't play out <u>if</u> it is raining.	✓	
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Sentence	Subordinating conjunction	Co-ordinating conjunction
I like Batman <u>but</u> my favourite superhero is Spiderman.		
Jamie likes Batman <u>because</u> of Robin.		
Jamie likes Superman <u>as</u> he flies well.		
I ate all of my dinner <u>so</u> I can have some pudding.		
I can eat my pudding <u>if</u> I eat all of my dinner.		
I ate all of my dinner <u>as well as</u> my pudding.		

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Sentence	Subordinating conjunction	Co-ordinating conjunction
Mum cooked fish <u>and</u> Dad cooked chips.		
Mum cooked fish <u>but</u> no chips.		
Mum cooked chips <u>because</u> she cooked fish.		
I wanted to paint <u>so</u> I got my paints out.		
I wanted to paint <u>because</u> it is my hobby.		
I wanted to paint <u>as</u> I had new paints and brushes.		

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Sentence	Subordinating conjunction	Co-ordinating conjunction
I like to play the piano <u>so</u> I practise every day.		
My mum can play all instruments <u>because</u> she is musical.		
My mum can learn another instrument too <u>if</u> she wants.		
A monkey climbs a tree <u>so</u> he can eat a banana from the branch.		
A monkey can eat a banana <u>but</u> he cannot eat a tree.		
A monkey can eat a banana <u>if</u> he can find a banana tree.		

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I will go on a bus <u>if</u> I can go on the train as well.		
I will go on a bus <u>as well as</u> a train.		
I will go on a bus first <u>and</u> then I need to get on a train.		
I prefer to wear shorts <u>but</u> my mum says I have to wear trousers.		
I have to wear trousers <u>because</u> my mum says so.		
I have to wear trousers <u>as</u> it is cold.		

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I ate all of my dinner <u>so</u> I can have some pudding.		✓
I can eat my pudding <u>if</u> I eat all of my dinner.	✓	
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Sentence	Subordinating conjunction	Co-ordinating conjunction
I like roller-skating <u>unless</u> it is raining.		
I like roller-skating <u>or</u> ice-skating.		
I like roller-skating <u>for</u> it is fun.		
The ducks are fed <u>until</u> they are full.		
The ducks enjoy being fed <u>and</u> they come right up to you.		
The ducks will not eat apples <u>nor</u> do they like bananas.		

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Sentence	Subordinating conjunction	Co-ordinating conjunction
I do not have a computer <u>yet</u> I have an ipad.		
I want a computer <u>but</u> my mum said no.		
I want a computer for Christmas <u>because</u> I don't have one.		
The sheep dog arrived on the farm <u>before</u> the farmer was even awake.		
The farmer arrived on the farm <u>after</u> he had eaten his breakfast.		
The farmer arrived on the farm <u>so</u> the sheep could be sheared.		

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The car went over the bridge <u>as</u> there was a river.		
The car had to go over the bridge <u>or</u> it would have ended up in the river.		
The car went over the bridge <u>after</u> the traffic lights turned green.		
We went to the zoo <u>after</u> we went to the pet shop.		
We stayed in the pet shop <u>until</u> it closed.		
We went to the pet shop <u>for</u> the afternoon.		

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My brother got married <u>and</u> I was a pageboy.		
I went to the wedding <u>because</u> I was a bridesmaid.		
I was nervous <u>before</u> the wedding started.		
I didn't want a yellow <u>or</u> chocolate Labrador.		
I could not take my black Labrador home <u>until</u> she was 9 weeks old.		
I love my little Labrador <u>unless</u> she annoys me.		

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We are going swimming <u>although</u> the new wave machine is not working yet.		
Finally, the car started <u>so</u> we could set off to the swimming baths.		
I don't want to go swimming <u>unless</u> my friend can come too.		
We have to decide whether to go swimming in the cold sea <u>or</u> go to the lovely heated swimming pool.		
We are trying to catch popular Pokémon <u>but</u> neither of us have caught Pikachu or Charizard yet.		
We are going to keep on trying to catch popular Pokémon <u>in order that</u> we can add Pikachu and Charizard to our collection.		
We are going to keep on trying to catch popular Pokémon <u>even if</u> it takes us all the summer.		
We have been trying to catch popular Pokémon <u>since</u> we finished school.		

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For dinner, my dad is going to make home made scotch eggs <u>after</u> he has made prawn salad.		
Additionally, my mum will try to eat all the scotch eggs <u>before</u> anyone else gets a chance.		
I want salad <u>as well as</u> scotch eggs.		
<u>After</u> our scotch eggs, we all want doughnuts for pudding.		
You are going to go out to the cinema today <u>whether</u> you want to or not!		
You are going to go out to the cinema today <u>so</u> you can see the latest film.		
You are going to go out to the cinema today <u>when</u> you are dressed and ready.		
You are going to go out to the cinema today <u>and</u> you are going to have fun.		

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The boys walked down the road <u>and</u> their parents waved from the house.		
The boys crossed the road on their own <u>even though</u> their parents had said not to.		
The boys walked across the road <u>before</u> their parents told them it was safe.		
The boys walked down the road <u>because</u> they wanted to get away from their parents.		
Dinosaurs are extinct now <u>so</u> you cannot meet them in reality.		
Dinosaurs are extinct now <u>which</u> is a shame as you cannot meet them in reality.		
You cannot meet a real dinosaur <u>for</u> they are now all extinct.		
Dinosaurs are extinct <u>whereas</u> tigers and lions are not.		

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He had read the account of Laura Bridgman's life and remembered vaguely that she was deaf and blind, <u>yet</u> had been educated.		
He had read the account of Laura Bridgman's life <u>because</u> he wanted to know more about her.		
He had read the account of Laura Bridgman's life <u>and</u> wanted to know more about her; especially how she had been educated.		
He had read the account of Laura Bridgman's life <u>before</u> he watched the television programme about her.		
We shall go for afternoon tea <u>whenever</u> you would like to have it.		
We shall go for afternoon tea and a shopping trip <u>for</u> your birthday treat.		
Shall we go for afternoon tea <u>or</u> shall we do something else?		
We shall go for afternoon tea, <u>which</u> I believe was your request.		

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We have to decide whether to go swimming in the cold sea <u>or</u> go to the lovely heated swimming pool.		✓
We are trying to catch popular Pokémon <u>but</u> neither of us have caught Pikachu or Charizard yet.		✓
We are going to keep on trying to catch popular Pokémon <u>in order that</u> we can add Pikachu and Charizard to our collection.	✓	
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I want salad <u>as well as</u> scotch eggs.	✓	
<u>After</u> our scotch eggs, we all want doughnuts for pudding.	✓	
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