

What Are Coordinating Conjunctions?

Conjunctions connect equal parts of sentences—words to words, phrases to phrases, or clauses to clauses. There are four types of conjunctions—Coordinating Conjunctions, Correlative Conjunctions, Subordinating Conjunctions, and Conjunctive Adverbs.

Coordinating Conjunctions join words or groups of words within a sentence that have equal grammatical weight. There are only seven coordinating conjunctions and if you remember the mnemonic acronym FANBOYS you will be able to remember all of them.

Coordinating Conjunctions		
and	but	or
for	nor	yet
so		

Notice that the word *for* is included here, but is also in the list of prepositions. When *for* is used as a coordinating conjunction, it means *for the reason that* or *because*. For example:

The children were tired, **for** they had run a long distance.

Examples:

The civil rights leaders of the 1960s strove to win greater respect, dignity, **and** political freedom for African Americans.

Martin Luther King Jr. was the most famous civil rights leader, **but** he was not the only person to participate in the struggle.

Ordinary citizens, such as Rosa Parks, who refused to sit at the back of a segregated bus, contributed to the fight for justice **and** equality.

Taunts did not deter the civil rights demonstrators, **nor** did physical abuse.

A new monument in Alabama commemorates the famous heroes of the movement, **yet** it does not ignore its anonymous heroes.

The monument is in the city of Montgomery, **for** it was there that many famous civil rights demonstrations took place.

How many coordinating conjunctions can you use to describe what you see in the image.



Warriors Dash in Texas-2014-Rick Kern-wikimedia.org