

What Are Conjunctive Adverbs?

Conjunctive Adverbs are used to clarify the relationship between independent clauses of equal weight in a sentence. An independent clause is one which can be a complete sentence on its own. Conjunctive adverbs modify an entire clause. Conjunctive adverbs are usually stronger, more precise, and more formal than coordinating conjunctions. When used in a written piece, conjunctive adverbs are often referred to as “transitions.”

Coordinating Conjunction:

Most people think of deserts as very hot places, **but** desert nights can be quite cool.

Conjunctive Adverb:

Most people think of deserts as very hot places; **however**, desert nights can be quite cool.

Notice how the conjunctive adverb example does a better job in showing the relationship between the clauses. Also notice that when the conjunctive adverb is located in the middle of the sentence, a semicolon and comma are also used. Study the chart below to become familiar with more conjunctive adverbs.

	Conjunctive Adverb
To replace “and”	also, besides, furthermore, moreover
To replace “but”	however, nevertheless, still, though
To state a result	consequently, therefore, so, thus
To state equality	equally, likewise, similarly

Examples:

The Toltec civilization of ancient Mexico was advanced in arts and architecture; **moreover**, it produced impressive stonework.

Toltec religion centered on Quetzalcoatl; **consequently**, he appeared in many images.

How many different conjunctive adverbs can you use to relate what is in the image to the right.



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