

Conjunctions

Words that join sentences and clauses

FANBOYS

Coordinating conjunctions - join two main clauses (each can stand alone)

F	For	(because)
A	And	(in addition)
N	Nor	(and not)
B	But	(contrast)
O	Or	(alternative)
Y	Yet	(contrast)
S	So	(result)

Examples:

I was tired, **so** I went to bed.

He wanted cake, **but** there was none left.

(Notice the comma before FANBOYS when joining two main clauses)

ISAWAWABUB

Subordinating conjunctions - join a main clause to a subordinate clause (only the main can stand alone)

I	If	S	Since
A	As	W	When
A	Although	W	While
A	After	B	Before
U	Until	B	Because

Examples:

Although it was raining, we still went out.

I was happy **because** I won a prize.

(The subordinate clause can come at the start with a comma, or at the end without one.)