

High-Intermediate 2
Unit 5, Punctuation Note
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Coordinating Conjunctions

Coordinating conjunctions connect two or more equal parts of a sentence, such as independent clauses, phrases, or words.

The main coordinating conjunctions in English are:

- **For** – shows reason or purpose (similar to *because*).
Example: I didn't go out, for it was raining.
- **And** – adds one idea to another.
Example: She likes apples and oranges.
- **Nor** – adds a negative idea to an already negative one.
Example: He doesn't drink coffee, nor does he like tea.
- **But** – shows contrast.
Example: She is smart but humble.
- **Or** – presents a choice or alternative.
Example: Would you like tea or coffee?
- **Yet** – introduces a contrasting idea, similar to *but*.
Example: It was cold, yet they went swimming.
- **So** – shows effect, result, or consequence.
Example: It was raining, so we stayed indoors.

A simple way to remember them is with the acronym **FANBOYS** (*For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So*).

Punctuation Rule

When combining **two independent clauses**, place a comma before the coordinating conjunction:

Structure:

Clause 1 + , + Coordinating Conjunction + Clause 2

Examples:

- I wanted to go for a walk, for it was a lovely day.
- She enjoys painting, and she loves sculpting.
- He didn't like the movie, nor did he enjoy the book.
- She is talented, but she is also very modest.
- You can stay here, or you can come with us.
- It was raining, yet they went for a hike.
- She was tired, so she went to bed early.

Each example joins two complete thoughts smoothly using a coordinating conjunction.

Special Note on “Nor”

When “nor” connects two independent clauses, the second clause usually **inverts** the subject and verb (like a question).

Structure:

Clause 1 + , + nor + Inverted Clause

Examples:

- She didn't want to go to the party, nor did she want to stay home.
- He has no interest in sports, nor does he enjoy watching TV.
- They weren't ready for the test, nor did they prepare for it.

Notice that the subject and verb switch places after **nor**, creating a question-like pattern.

Source:

<https://www.anglophone.ir/high2/>