**Conjunctions: Joining Words and Ideas**

**1. Definition:**

Conjunctions are words that connect words, phrases, or clauses within a sentence. They are essential for creating coherent and structured sentences.

**2. Types of Conjunctions:**

***Coordinating Conjunctions:*** These conjunctions connect words, phrases, or independent clauses of equal importance. There are seven coordinating conjunctions, often remembered by the acronym **FANBOYS**:

**For:** Indicates a reason.

**And:** Adds information or combines elements.

**Nor:** Introduces a negative alternative.

**But:** Shows contrast or contradiction.

**Or:** Presents an alternative.

**Yet:** Indicates a contrast or exception.

**So:** Conveys a result or consequence.

***Subordinating Conjunctions:*** These conjunctions join an independent clause with a dependent clause, making the dependent clause subordinate to the independent one. Common subordinating conjunctions include **"because," "although," "if,"** **"when,"** and **"while."**

***Correlative Conjunctions:*** These conjunctions work in pairs to connect elements and emphasize relationships. Common correlative conjunctions include **"both...and," "either...or," "neither...nor," "not only...but also,"** and **"whether...or."**

**3. Uses of Conjunctions:**

***Coordinating Conjunctions:*** These are used to connect words or phrases of equal importance.

**Example:** "I like both chocolate and vanilla ice cream."

***Subordinating Conjunctions:*** These connect a dependent clause to an independent clause.

**Example:** "I'll go to the park if the weather is nice."

***Correlative Conjunctions:*** These work together to emphasize relationships between elements.

**Example:** "She is neither happy nor sad."

**4. Sentence Structure with Conjunctions:**

Conjunctions are used to combine ideas and create complex sentences with different clauses.

***Example:*** "I went to the store, and I bought some groceries."

**5. Commas with Conjunctions:**

When a coordinating conjunction joins two independent clauses, a comma is often used before the conjunction.

***Example:*** "She is studying for her exam, but she's feeling a bit tired."

Conjunctions play a crucial role in sentence structure and are essential for creating clear and connected writing. They help express relationships between words, phrases, and clauses, allowing for more complex and organized communication.