

Tikrit University
College of Education for Humanities
English Department



Forth Stage/ Translation
Conjunctions
Dr. Ashwaq J. Mohammed
2024

1. Conjunctions

Conjunctions are words used to join a word to another word, a sentence to another sentence, and a word to a clause. For example: He was playing music, yet I studied. Here, "He was playing music" is a sentence, and "I studied" is another sentence. Word "yet" is simply joining the two sentences together to convey key information in the compound sentence. There are several conjoining words that students commonly misuse in sentences. The following important rules are to be followed when using conjunctions:

Use **not only** followed by **but also**.

Incorrect: She did **not only** hug him, she kissed him.

Correct: Not **only did** she hug him, **but** also kissed him.

The use of **though** instead of **although**:

Incorrect: You look as although you have seen a monster!

Correct: You look as **though** you have seen a monster!

Avoid using **not** with **lest**, because **lest** is a negative word. When used, **should** must follow.

Incorrect: You had better work hard **lest not** you become poor.

Correct: You had better work hard **lest** you **should** become poor/lest you become poor.

In the absence of **should** or **shall**, "else" is appropriate. In essence, when you

have will, would, or may instead of should or shall, "else" will replace "**lest**."

Incorrect: Drive fast to the airport **else**, you will miss your flight.

Correct: Drive fast to the airport, **or else** you will miss your flight.

Both must accompany **and**.

Incorrect: Both Jackson, Julian are together.

Correct: **Both** Jackson **and** Julian are together.

The use of **other**, **rather** and **than**:

Incorrect: I would leave **than** sit here with you.

Correct: I would **rather** leave **than** sit here with you.

Incorrect: **Than** sleeping late, I love studying.

Correct: **Other than** sleeping late, I love studying.

The use of the conditional **if** is different from **whether**. This is because **if** has a conditional connotation, while **whether** connotes uncertainty.

Incorrect: He doesn't come early, he will not be allowed entry.

Correct: **If** he doesn't come early, he will not be allowed entry.

(conditional)

Incorrect: She likes it or not, she will be punished

Correct: **Whether** she likes it or not, she will be punished.

(certainty)

Either or and **neither nor**:

Incorrect: We came to the spa but we didn't meet Jane and John.

Correct: We came to the spa but we met **neither** Jane nor John/we met **neither** of them.

Incorrect: My client is not mad and not crazy, the lawyer said.

Correct: My client is **neither** mad **nor** crazy, the lawyer said.

Incorrect: I love pigging out on ice-cream **or** yogurt.

Correct: I love pigging out on **either** ice-cream **or** yogurt.

Incorrect: It is clear; you are telling a lie **or** saying the truth.

Correct: It is clear; you are **either** telling a lie **or** saying the truth.

Incorrect: **Neither** would he eat the food or let us eat it.

Correct: **Neither** would he eat the food **nor** let us eat it.

The use of **such** and **that**: usually, **such that** is used when stating the extent or degree of something.

Incorrect: The rubber stretched that it broke.

Correct: The rubber was stretched **such that** it broke.

Incorrect: The stock market became flooded that it crashed.

Correct: The stock market became flooded **such that** it crashed.

Like is used to explain similarity and should be followed by a pronoun.

Using **as**, it should be followed by a clause.

Incorrect: She sang alike **as** my sister.

Correct: She sang **like** my sister.

Incorrect: He was as bold **like** a lion.

Correct: He was **as** bold **as** a lion.

Incorrect: He ate like he was walking.

Correct: He ate as he was walking.

One conjoining word is enough to join two clauses successfully.

Incorrect: The director asked **that** what was his grade.

Correct: The director asked **what his grade was**.

Incorrect: He's often scared **that** he might repeat the course.

Correct: He's often scared he **might repeat the course**.

Incorrect: **Because** he wasn't quick enough, **therefore** we finished before him.

Correct: **Because** he wasn't quick enough, we finished before him.

Incorrect: He was angry. He slapped him.

Correct: He was angry, **so** he slapped him.

Incorrect: **Since** he is smart, **so** he always has his way.

Correct: **Since** he is smart, he always has his way / He is smart, so he always has his way.

The use of **so as** in a sentence is usually to indicate a purpose. When **so as**, be sure of the phrase that follows.

Incorrect: He attended the gathering **so that** he can catch the perpetrators.

Correct: He attended the gathering **so as** to catch the perpetrators.

MCQs: Choose the appropriate options from the statements below:

1. He had scarcely eaten ___. (A. that his friend came B. when his friend came)

Answer: B

2. ___ did he help the poor kid, ___ he took him home. (A. Not only/neither B. Neither/nor C. Not only/but also)

Answer: C

3. Read up _____ you should forget. (A. or else B. lest C. else)

Answer: B

4. Bring me the report ___ I forget. (A. lest B. else)

Answer: A

5. She walked hurriedly ___ she would miss the bus. (A. or else B. lest C. else)

Answer: B

6. ___ Jude ___ Martin are good English students. (A. either/or B. both/and C. both/or)

Answer: B