



Practice, Learn and Achieve
Your Goal with Prepp

SSC MTS Exam

Study Material for General English

Simplifying
Government Exams

 SSC CHSL	 IAS EXAM	 RRB NTPC	 NTSE	 CDS
 SSC CGL	 CBSE UGC NET	 IBPS PO	 NDA	
 SBI PO	 IBPS CLERK	 AFCAT	 SSC JE	 CTET
 CSIR UGC NET	 CAPF	 IBPS RRB		

www.prepp.in

CONJUNCTIONS

- Conjunctions are words that link other words, phrases, or clauses together. For example,
 - I like cooking and eating, but I don't like washing dishes afterward.
 - Sophie is clearly exhausted, yet she insists on dancing till dawn.
- Conjunctions allow you to form complex, elegant sentences and avoid the choppiness of multiple short sentences.
- Make sure that the phrases joined by conjunctions are parallel (share the same structure.)

Example:

Incorrect	I work quickly and am careful.
Correct	I work quickly and carefully.

Coordinating Conjunctions

- Coordinating conjunctions allow you to join words, phrases, and clauses of equal grammatical rank in a sentence.
- The most common coordinating conjunctions are: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, and so;
- An easy way to remember these, is by using the mnemonic device, **"FANBOYS"**.

F	OR
A	ND
N	OR
B	UT
O	R
Y	ET
S	O

Examples:

1.	I'd like pizza or a salad for lunch.
2.	We needed a place to concentrate, so we packed up our things and went to the library.
3.	Jesse didn't have much money, but she got by.

Note: Notice the use of the comma when a coordinating conjunction is joining two independent clauses.

Correlative Conjunctions

- Correlative conjunctions are pairs of conjunctions that work together.
- Some examples are: either/or, neither/nor, and not only/but also.

Example:

1.	Not only am I finished studying for English, but I'm also finished writing my history essay.
2.	I am finished with both my English essay and my history essay.

Subordinating Conjunctions

- Subordinating conjunctions join independent and dependent clauses.
- A subordinating conjunction can signal a cause-and-effect relationship, a contrast, or some other kind of relationship between the clauses.
- Common subordinating conjunctions are:

● Because	● As	● Though	● Whereas
● Since	● Although	● While	

- Sometimes an adverb can function as a conjunction, such as:
 - Until
 - After
 - Before

Example:

1.	I can stay out until the clock strikes twelve
Explanation:	Here, the adverb until functions as a coordinating conjunction to connect two ideas: I can stay out (the independent clause) and the clock strikes twelve (the dependent clause).

Note: The independent clause could stand alone as a sentence; the dependent clause depends on the independent clause to make sense.

- The subordinating conjunction doesn't need to go in the middle of the sentence.
- It has to be part of the dependent clause, but the dependent clause can come before the independent clause.
- The subordinating conjunction doesn't need to go in the middle of the sentence.
- It has to be part of the dependent clause, but the dependent clause can come before the independent clause.

Example:

1.	Before he leaves, make sure his room is clean.
----	--

If the dependent clause comes first, use a comma before the independent clause.

Example:

1.	<u>I drank a glass of water</u> because I was thirsty. (independent clause 1 st)
2.	<u>Because I was thirsty,</u> I drank a glass of water. (dependent clause 1 st)

Rules for Using a Coordinating Conjunction

Rule #1

- Put a comma before the coordinating conjunction when it is used to connect two independent clauses.
- A clause is a group of words that contain a subject and a verb.
- An independent clause (or main clause) expresses a complete thought. It can stand alone as a sentence.

Example:

1.	I like apples
----	---------------

- A dependent clause does not express a complete thought. It cannot stand alone as a sentence.

Example:

1.	“that I saw last month.”
----	--------------------------

Examples of Independent Clauses:

1.	Tom walked the dog.
Explanation:	It is an independent clause Subject: Tom Verb: walked
2.	Tom grabbed the mail.

Explanation:	It is an independent clause Subject: Tom Verb: grabbed
--------------	--

These two independent clauses can be combined with a coordinating conjunction. When we combine these two sentences, the second "Tom" will be changed to "he."

Example:	Tom walked the dog, so he grabbed the mail. OR Tom walked the dog, and he grabbed the mail.
Explanation:	Both parts of the sentence have a subject and verb (before and after the coordinating conjunction).

Here are a few more examples of coordinating conjunctions connecting independent clauses.

Incorrect	I want to go see a movie but my sister has my car.
Correct	I want to go see a movie, but my sister has my car.

Incorrect	Lisa loves cats yet she does not want one living in her house.
Correct	Lisa loves cats, yet she does not want one living in her house.

Rule #2

- When using a coordinating conjunction to connect two items, do not use a comma.
- In the example above with Tom and his dog, we can leave out the comma if we do not have two independent clauses.
- We do this by leaving out the subject in the second part of the sentence (he).

Example:

1.	Tom walked the dog and grabbed the mail
Explanation:	"Tom walked the dog" is an independent clause, but "grabbed the mail" is not.

Here are a few more examples of how to use a coordinating conjunction to connect two items that are not independent clauses.

Incorrect	She likes apples, and bananas.
Correct	She likes apples and bananas.

Incorrect	My brother is young, but smart.
Correct	My brother is young but smart.

Rule #3

- When using a coordinating conjunction with a list of items (three or more in number), the comma before the coordinating conjunction is optional.
- You should put or leave out the comma before the coordinating conjunction based on the style guide you are using.

Example with a comma:

1.	She is cooking chicken, potatoes, corn, and carrot. OR She is cooking chicken, potatoes, corn and carrot.
----	---

Conjunctions List

- There are only a few common conjunctions, yet these words perform many functions.
- They present explanations, ideas, exceptions, consequences, and contrasts.
- Here is a list of conjunctions commonly used in English:

• And	• For	• Neither	• So
• As	• Just	• Nor	• Whether
• Because	• Or	• Not only	• Yet
• But			

How to Use Conjunctions

Lest – Should

- Lest _____ should
- "Not" is included in the word "lest".
- It has negativity in itself so we can't use "not" with this word in a sentence.

Examples:

Incorrect	I was afraid to open the door lest he would follow me.
Correct	I was afraid to open the door lest he should follow me.

Incorrect	Work hard lest you should not fail.
Correct	Work hard lest you should fail.

So – As

- So _____ as
- It shows negativity in a sentence.
- We use these words to show negativity.

Examples:

Incorrect	She is not so intelligent as I.
Correct	She is not as intelligent as I.

Incorrect	Nothing is so good as we think.
Correct	Nothing is as good as we think.

As – as

- As _____ as
- It shows positivity in a sentence.

Example:

Incorrect	She looks so beautiful as a princess.
Correct	She looks as beautiful as a princess.

Incorrect	She is so tall as her mother.
Correct	She is as tall as her mother.

Other – Than

- Other _____ Than
- Sometimes in an exam, we can see "other" with "but" in a sentence, ignore this without thinking and instead use "than".

Example:

Incorrect	The form cannot be signed by anyone than other you.
Correct	The form cannot be signed by anyone other than you.

Incorrect	I'm not aware of anything after that, than other trying to get an ambulance
------------------	---

Correct	I'm not aware of anything after that, other than trying to get an ambulance.
----------------	--

Either - or/ Neither - nor/ Not only - but also

- Either _____ or
- Neither _____ no
- Not only _____ but also
- There can be three types of error in these conjunctions for instance. We can trace certain common errors in the aforementioned conjunctions.

We can't use either with nor and neither with or. For example:

Incorrect	Either you nor your brother has won the prize.
Correct	Either you or your brother has won the prize.

Incorrect	Neither he or his brother can walk faster than I.
Correct	Neither he nor his brother can walk faster than I. (√)

These words are always used with uncommon part of the sentence. For example:

Incorrect	Cars is not only economical, but convenient.
Correct	Cars are not only economical, but also convenient.

Incorrect	Should I either buy red sweater or blue?
Correct	Should I buy either the red sweater or the blue sweater?

Verbs According to the First Subject

Example:

Incorrect	Unfortunately neither nor red sweater blue sweater is available.
Correct	Unfortunately, neither the red sweater nor the blue sweater are currently available.

As long as/With/Along with/Together

- When we add two subjects with these words, then we need to focus on the form of verb because in these types of sentences we should use verb according to the first subject.

Example:

Incorrect	I will lend my camera, if you use as long as carefully.
Correct	I will lend you my camera as long as you're careful when using it.

Incorrect	I buy a Happy Meal with free toy.
Correct	I buy a Happy Meal because it comes with a free toy.

Correct	Come along now.
Correct	It's late, take a friend along with you.
Correct	They live together in the same apartment.

Else – but

- Else _____ but
- These words have negative meaning. The only auxiliary verb that can follow "else" is but.

Example:

Correct	You do nothing else but complain.
----------------	-----------------------------------

Whether - or

- Whether _____ or
- Whether is always followed by "or" in a sentence and we can't use "that" before whether.

Example:

Incorrect	I buy a Happy Meal with free toy.
Correct	I buy a Happy Meal because it comes with a free toy.

Incorrect	I asked her that whether her father was at home.
Correct	I asked her whether her father was at home.

As if/as though

- Meaning: (Subject+v1+as if/as though + subject + were+.....)
- We use as if and as though to make comparisons. They have a similar meaning.
- We use as if and as though to talk about an imaginary situation or a situation that may not be true but that is likely or possible. As if is more common than as though.

Example:

Incorrect	He acts as if he is a prince.
Correct	He acts as if he were a prince.
Incorrect	She felt a pain like a knife had pierced her heart.
Correct	She felt a pain as though a knife had pierced her heart.

The reason/why...that

- After the reason/the reason why we must use "that" in a sentence because sometimes we can see "due to, because, on account of" etc. after the reason/the reason why.

Example:

Incorrect	The reason why I don't include pineapple in my diet is an allergy.
Correct	The reason why I don't include pineapples in my diet is due to an allergy.
Incorrect	The reason for the bus being late was because the bus was involved in an accident.
Correct	The reason for the bus being late was that the bus was involved in an accident.

Unless

- It is used as a conjunction in the meaning of (if not) – condition/situation.
- Until: it used for time
- These words have negativity in themselves so we can't use "not" with them.

Example:

Incorrect	Unless she does not mend her behaviour, I shall send her out.
Correct	Unless she mends her behaviour, she is not allowed to go out.

Incorrect	Until I do not inform my father I shall not go out of my house.
------------------	---

Correct

I shall not go out of my house until I inform my father.

Prepp



Latest Sarkari jobs, Govt Exam alerts, Results and Vacancies

- ▶ Latest News and Notification
- ▶ Exam Paper Analysis
- ▶ Topic-wise weightage
- ▶ Previous Year Papers with Answer Key
- ▶ Preparation Strategy & Subject-wise Books

To know more [Click Here](#)



www.prepp.in