

# THE ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER

## COORDINATION

### Three Ways to Combine Two Related Sentences (Independent Clauses):

EXAMPLE: Two related sentences to be combined:

**Bryan likes football. Louisa prefers basketball.**  
(complete sentence) (complete sentence)

#### 1. Use a comma and one of the seven coordinating conjunctions (FANBOYS):

, for  
, and  
, nor  
, but  
, or  
, yet  
, so

EXAMPLE: Bryan likes football, **but** Louisa prefers basketball.  
(complete sentence) (complete sentence)

#### 2. Use a semicolon.

EXAMPLE: Bryan likes football ; Louisa prefers basketball.  
(complete sentence) (complete sentence)

#### 3. Use the combination of a semicolon, an adverbial conjunction, and a comma.

EXAMPLE: Bryan likes football ; **however**, Louisa prefers basketball.  
(complete sentence) (complete sentence)

#### Examples of adverbial conjunctions:

; afterwards,	; instead,
; also,	; later,
; as a result,	; meanwhile,
; besides,	; moreover,
; consequently,	; nevertheless,
; for example,	; next,
; furthermore,	; now,
; however,	; on the other hand,
; in addition,	; otherwise,
; in conclusion,	; that is;
; in fact,	; then,
; in other words,	; therefore,
; indeed,	: thus,

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## SUBORDINATION

### Two ways to Use Subordinating Conjunctions to Combine Sentences:

EXAMPLE: Two related sentences to be combined:

**Bryan likes football. Louisa prefers basketball.**  
(independent clause) (independent clause)

1. Use a subordinating conjunction before the second sentence.  
The second sentence becomes a dependent clause.

EXAMPLE: Bryan likes football *whereas* Louisa prefers basketball.  
(independent clause) (dependent clause)

NOTE: There is no comma used when a dependent clause follows an independent clause.

2. Use a subordinating conjunction before the first sentence.  
The first sentence becomes a dependent clause.

EXAMPLE: *Although* Bryan likes football, Louisa prefers basketball.  
(dependent clause) (independent clause)

NOTE: When a dependent clause begins a sentence, a comma is used after it.

The following words can be used as subordinating conjunctions. Some of these words can also be used as prepositions in prepositional phrases:

After	Unless
Although	Until
As	What
As if	Whatever
As long as	When
As though	Whenever
Because	Where
Before	Whereas
Even though	Wherever
How	Which
If	Whichever
Since	While
So that	Who
Than	Whoever
That	Whom
Though	Whomever