



## Coordinating Conjunctions

### What are they?

For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So (FANBOYS)

### What do they do?

- a. Connect Independent Clauses (FANBOYS)
- b. Connect Elements of a sentence (BOYA)

#### Examples:

- a. *John loves reading, but he does not like to write.*
- a. *Allana claims to be a vegetarian, yet she loves to eat shrimp.*
- a. *Jerome is a rabid Bears fan, and he always invites me to the games.*
- b. *Veronica can't decide whether she wants a cat or a dog. (Or joins two nouns)*
- b. *Marisol went to the store and to the post office before coming home. (And joins two prepositional phrases)*

### Common mistakes:

- 1) The logic of the coordinating conjunction does not fit the logic of the sentence.

#### Example:

**Bad:** *Martha decided to quit her job, and I thought it was a bad idea.*

**Better:** *Martha decided to quit her job, but I thought it was a bad idea.*

- 2) Some writers use coordinating conjunctions when a subordinating conjunction might work better.

#### Example:

**Bad:** Charles made his decision **so** we had the meeting.

**Better:** Charles made his decision **after** we had the meeting.

### All CCs express specific logic

**For:** expresses cause

**And:** addition

**Nor:** addition of negatives

**But:** opposition, contrast, concession

**Or:** choice

**Yet:** opposition, contrast,