**Conjunctions**

**Coordinating Conjunctions:** used to join words, phrases, or clauses that are grammatically equal

- , for
- , and
- , nor

Independent clause, **but** independent clause.
- , or
- , yet
- , so

**Subordinating Conjunctions:** introduces a dependent clause and indicates its relation to the rest of the sentence; may be located either at the beginning or end of the sentence

- **Reason:** because, since, as
- **Time:** before, after, once, as soon as, while, when, since, until, whenever
- **Place:** where, wherever
- **How:** as though, as if, how
- **Purpose or result:** so that, in order that, that
- **Condition:** even if, if, unless
- **Contrast:** although, though, even though, whereas, while
- **Choice:** than, whether, rather than

**Punctuation:**
- When a subordinating conjunction is used at the **beginning** of a sentence, put a comma after the dependent clause.
  - Ex. **When you want to go,** tell me.
- When they come at the **end,** no comma is usually necessary.
  - Ex. **Tell me when you want to go.**

**Reductions:**
- Dependent clauses formed with subordinating conjunctions may be reduced by dropping the subject and adding -ing to the verb.
  - Ex. **Before he left,** he thanked her for the help.
    **Before leaving,** he thanked her for the help.

**Cautions:**
- Never use both a coordinating and subordinating conjunction to express one relationship in a sentence.
  - **NO:** Although she loves dogs, **but** she is allergic to them.
  - **YES:** Although she loves dogs, she is allergic to them.
  - **YES:** She loves dogs, **but** she is allergic to them.
- Be sure to carefully consider the relationship between the dependent and independent clause, and choose a subordinating conjunction that demonstrates the appropriate relationship.
  - **NO:** Because Beethoven was deaf when he wrote them, his final symphonies were masterpieces.
  - **YES:** Although Beethoven was deaf when he wrote them, his final symphonies were masterpieces.