

The Important Joining Words

In English, the most commonly used conjunctions (or joining words) are:

and *though* *as* *because* *but* *if* *or*

There are a number of other important conjunctions that you can use. These can be put into categories of **time**, **place**, or **agreement**:

TIME *before* *after* *until* *since* *when* *whenever* *while*

For example:

We all went home *before* a fight broke out.
She went to bed *after* she put the cat out.
There will be no peace *until* somebody says that they are sorry.
It has not been the same around here *since* our friends moved away.
They put the television off *when* the program had finished.
He washes his new car *whenever* it gets dirty.
The children go to the crèche *while* their parents go to work.

PLACE *where*

For example:

Remember that restaurant *where* you ate a huge steak.

AGREEMENT *though* *although* *whether*

For example:

He could play the violin *though* he was only five years old.
I would invite you to come in *although* the place is a mess.
It was a great show *whether* you wanted to join in or just watch.

Remember!

Try to avoid using the same conjunction over and over again. It is much better to 'mix and match'.

The conjunction you use can **change the meaning of the sentence**. You can't use every conjunction everywhere - so choose wisely!

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