

In English you cannot connect two sentences with a comma else you get a “comma splice.” Also, you cannot write two sentences together without some type of coordinating conjunction else you get a “run-on-sentence”.

Example of an incorrect sentence structure: Michael hates school he does his homework anyway.
(this is a run-on-sentence error)

This is also incorrect: Michael hates school, he does his homework anyway. (This is a comma splice error)

The only way to correct this sentence is to use “coordinating conjunctions” (But – or – yet - so – for – and – nor or **B-O-Y-S-F-A-N**) are used to connect two sentences.

→ **But** (means “in contrast or however”)

Ex - Michael hates school, but he does his homework anyway.

→ **Or** (selection between two choices)

Ex – Michael will go to work, or he will stay home due to his cold.

→ **Yet** (means “despite all that happened before”)

Ex – Michael’s eyes are so tired from driving all day, yet he keeps on driving to reach his destination.

→ **So** (means “as a result / for that reason”)

Ex – Michael earns good money at work, so he enjoys working overtime to make more money.

→ **For** (another way of saying “because”)

Ex – Michael wants to find a new job, for his current one doesn’t allow him any vacation time.

→ **And** (means “additional information”)

Ex – Michael loves his new job, and he is popular with his co-workers in the company.

→ **Nor** (means not one nor the other in a negative context – It’s the negative of “or”)

Ex - Michael didn’t get a job promotion, nor **did he get a raise in his salary.**

Notice – there is a comma before each coordinating conjunction to indicate 2 sentences are being connected.

Write the appropriate “coordinating conjunction” (But, or, yet, so, for, and, nor)

1. Michael is an audacious young boy. He had been told of the dangers of getting into the woods, _____ he went away.
2. He knew that the forest was dangerous, _____ he went there anyway to run away from home.
3. He was curious of the forest, _____ he disobeyed his parents.
4. Michael got into a panic, _____ he couldn't help it.
6. He ran away, _____ he was frightened by what he had seen in the haunted house.
7. He didn't stop running, _____ did he look back to the haunted house.
8. When he came back home he was sick, _____ he went to bed.
9. Michael had better stay out of haunted houses, _____ he will have nightmares.

10. Michael is a nice man, _____ he gets involved in unusual circumstances.
11. His daughter wants to be a computer programmer, _____ she spends all her spare time on the computer.
12. Michael's new house is cozy, _____ his guests always feel welcomed.
13. Michael will go shopping with his wife, _____ he will go golfing with his friends at the park.
14. Michael's first week at his new job was terrible, _____ his boss was always in a bad mood.

Now it's your turn. **Write a creative sentence** using the following coordinating conjunctions:

1. but (Contrast) _____
2. or (Choice) _____
4. so (result , for that reason)

5. for (means "because")

6. and (in additon) _____