



Coordination

Coordination

- **syndetic** (coordinators are used)
- **asyndetic** (no coordinators)
- **polysyndetic** (a coordinator is repeatedly used)
- Examples:

*Mary was running quickly **and** Petr was listening to some music.*

Mary was cooking, Petr was listening to some music.

*Mary was cooking **and** Petr was listening to some music **and** their mother was working in the garden.*

Linkers

- **coordinators** (coordinating conjunctions)
- **conjuncts** (adverbials)
- **subordinators** (subordinating conjunctions)

- Examples:

*Mary studied hard, **but** (she) failed.*

*Mary studied hard, **yet** (she) failed*

***Although** Mary studied hard, she failed.*

*(Mary failed **although** she studied hard.)*

Difference between coordination and subordination

- **Coordination** = units are on the same syntactic level (e.g. *He worked hard, he failed/yet he failed/ but he failed.*)
- **Subordination** = one unit is a constituent of a superordinate unit, for example functioning as an adverbial (e.g. *Although he worked hard, he failed.*)

Coordinators

- **three central coordinators** (*and, or, but*)

You can stay or (you can) go home.

- **coordinators/subordinators** (*for, so that* in the meaning ‘with the result that’)

I was very tired (,) for I had to work hard.

Bus drivers are on strike, so that commuters have trouble getting to work.

Features of coordinators

- unlike conjuncts, coordinators are restricted to the initial position in the second clause
- coordinated clauses are sequentially fixed in relation to the previous clause
- coordinators are not preceded by a conjunction
- coordinators can link clause constituents
- coordinators can link subordinate clauses
- coordinators can link more than two clauses (= multiple coordination)

Correlatives

- consist of an endorsing item and a coordinator (e.g. *either ... or*, *neither ... nor*)
- **three main correlative pairs:**
 - both ... and* (Both Jill and Mary have time.)
 - either ... or* (Either Peter or Mary must start immediately. Either you go now or you have to stay the whole week.)
 - neither ... nor* (Neither John, nor Jack can come.)
- **one marginal correlative pair:**
 - not (only) ... but (also)*
(Not only can he swim, but he can also swim quickly.
Not Peter, but Mary is the owner.)

Correlatives

- their use is not acceptable where there are three or more conjoins;
- they should introduce parallel units, i.e. units of the same function (*Many people neither understand, nor appreciate his qualities.*)

Simple coordination

- coordination in which a single clause or a single clause element is linked to others that are parallel in meaning, function and mostly in form

- conjoin + conjoin = conjoint

My brother and my father are ready to go out.

My brother is happy and my father is ready to go out.

My brother and my father are happy and ready to go out.

Types of simple coordination

- c. of clauses (*David was reading a book and Mary was watching TV.*)
- c. of predicates and predications (*He walks slowly and speaks quickly. He can read and write.*)
- c. of noun phrases and their constituents (*my house and that new cottage of theirs*)
- c. within noun phrases (*young and clever people*)

Coordination of noun phrases

- **combinatory coordination:**

(e.g. *Jim and Mary are a pleasant couple.*

Jim and Mary look after each other properly.)

- **segregatory coordination:**

(e.g. *Jim and Mary are young. = Both Jim and Mary are young.*

Jim and Mary look after themselves properly. = Jim looks after himself and Mary looks after herself properly.)

Complex coordination

- coordination in which the conjoins are combinations of units rather than single units
- usually requires a strong parallelism between the conjoins
 - a/ each conjoin consists of contiguous elements and the conjoins are combined in F position (*He gave me a book and her a picture.*)
 - b/ conjoins are not in F position (*John likes, but Mary hates, swimming.*)

Gapping

- a type of complex coordination in which a second or subsequent conjoin contains a medial ellipsis, so that the elements in these conjoins are not contiguous

e.g. *One boy has written a poem and the other **E** a short story.* = SVO and S(V)O

One boy has written a poem and the other [has written] a short story.

Appended coordination

- occurs when an elliptical clause is appended to a previous clause
- typical of informal speech
- e.g. *My son plays football, and sometimes even ice-hockey.*

Pseudo-coordination

- c. of two verbs (*I'll try and come soon.*)
- c. of two adjectives of which the first one is an intensifier of the second (*He gave a nice and short speech.*)
- c. of identical comparative forms of adjectives, adverbs, and determiners in order to express a continuing increase in degree (*She felt more and more tired.*)

Pseudo-coordination

- c. of two or more identical forms of verbs and adverbs that express continuation or repetition (*He talked and talked and talked.*)
- c. of two identical nouns to indicate different kinds (*There are students and students.*)
- c. of three or more identical nouns to indicate a large number or quantity (*There was nothing but rain, rain, rain, rain for the whole week.*)

Quasi-coordination

- most quasi-coordinators are related to comparative forms
- they are, for example, the following:
as well as, as much as, rather than, more than
- e.g. *Peter, as well as his wife, is here now.*
*I'm going to forget the whole affair, rather than
cause trouble.*