

Conjunctions, Prepositions, and Interjections

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____ / 10



Quick Review

Coordinating conjunctions (FANBOYS: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so) join equal parts. Subordinating conjunctions (because, although, since, while, if, until, when) start dependent clauses. Prepositions (in, on, under, between, beside, through, before, after, across) show how a noun relates to the rest of the sentence. Interjections (Wow! Hey! Oh, Ouch!) express sudden feeling and are usually set off by a comma or exclamation.

PRACTICE

Read each sentence carefully and choose the best answer.

- In the sentence 'Diego packed his lunch BEFORE the bus arrived,' what is the word 'before'?
 - a coordinating conjunction
 - a preposition
 - a subordinating conjunction
 - an interjection
- Which sentence uses a COORDINATING conjunction correctly?
 - We waited for the rain to stop, and then we walked home.
 - Although we waited, the rain never stopped before dinner.
 - Because the rain stopped, we walked home together.
 - While we waited inside, the rain finally stopped falling.
- Identify a prepositional phrase in this sentence: 'The kitten with white paws hid under the porch.'
 - The kitten
 - hid under
 - white paws
 - under the porch
- Which word in this sentence is an INTERJECTION? 'Wow, that magic trick really fooled the whole audience!'
 - really
 - Wow
 - fooled
 - audience



5. Which sentence uses a SUBORDINATING conjunction?
- A. Because the river was high, the bridge was closed all weekend.
 - B. The river was high, so the bridge was closed all weekend.
 - C. The river was high, but the bridge stayed open all weekend.
 - D. The river was high, and the bridge was closed all weekend.
6. How many prepositional phrases are in this sentence? 'After lunch, the team marched across the field toward the gym.'
- A. one
 - B. two
 - C. three
 - D. four
7. Which sentence uses an interjection CORRECTLY punctuated?
- A. Ouch that thorn really hurt my finger.
 - B. Ouch! That thorn really hurt my finger.
 - C. Ouch, that thorn, hurt my finger really.
 - D. That thorn really, ouch, hurt my finger.
8. In 'The squirrel scurried OVER the fence AND down the tree,' what part of speech is the word 'and'?
- A. preposition
 - B. subordinating conjunction
 - C. interjection
 - D. coordinating conjunction
9. Which sentence uses a preposition CORRECTLY to show location?
- A. The hummingbird hovered between the two red feeders.
 - B. The hummingbird hovered, between, the two red feeders.
 - C. The hummingbird hovered the two red feeders between.
 - D. The hummingbird hovered, and between the two red feeders.
10. Write one original sentence that contains an interjection AND a prepositional phrase. Underline the interjection once and the prepositional phrase twice.



Answer Keys

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Explanations	
1. C	Here 'before' joins the dependent clause 'before the bus arrived' to the main clause, so it is a subordinating conjunction. It would be a preposition only if a NOUN followed it (e.g., 'before lunch'). Coordinating conjunctions are FANBOYS only; interjections express feeling and are set off by punctuation.
2. A	Option A uses 'and' (a FANBOYS word) to join two independent clauses — the textbook coordinating-conjunction pattern. B starts with 'although', C with 'because', and D with 'while' — all subordinating conjunctions, not coordinating ones.
3. D	A prepositional phrase begins with a preposition and ends with its noun object. 'Under the porch' starts with 'under' and ends with the object 'porch' — D is correct. A has no preposition. B is a verb plus a stranded preposition with no object. C is just a noun phrase with no preposition in front.
4. B	'Wow' expresses sudden feeling and is set off by a comma — that is the definition of an interjection. 'Really' is an adverb, 'fooled' is a verb, and 'audience' is a noun.
5. A	'Because' starts a dependent clause and shows cause — a subordinating conjunction. B uses 'so', C uses 'but', and D uses 'and' — all FANBOYS (coordinating) words that join two equal independent clauses.
6. C	Three: 'After lunch' (preposition 'after' + object 'lunch'), 'across the field' ('across' + 'field'), and 'toward the gym' ('toward' + 'gym'). A common mistake is to count only the phrases that follow the verb and miss 'After lunch' at the start.
7. B	An interjection at the start of a sentence is set off by an exclamation point or a comma. B does this correctly. A has no punctuation after 'Ouch'. C scrambles the commas around the wrong word. D buries the interjection mid-sentence with awkward commas.
8. D	'And' is a FANBOYS word that joins two equal prepositional phrases — a coordinating conjunction. 'Over' and 'down' are the prepositions; 'and' itself isn't a preposition. Subordinating conjunctions begin dependent clauses (because, although); interjections express feeling.
9. A	A preposition like 'between' must come BEFORE its object ('the two red feeders') with no extra punctuation. A follows the rule. B adds stray commas; C puts the preposition AFTER its object; D wedges in an unneeded coordinating conjunction.
10.	Answer: Example: Wow! The eagle landed on the tallest branch. Accept any sentence that begins (or interrupts) with a clearly punctuated interjection (Wow!, Hey!, Oh,) AND contains a phrase that starts with a preposition (on, under, beside, through, between, across) plus its noun object. Mark wrong if the interjection lacks comma/exclamation, or if the 'prepositional phrase' is missing the noun object (e.g., 'landed on' alone).

