

## Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #52

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### **FOCUS**      Commas with Conjunctions

Use commas before conjunctions to join two clauses.

### **CONNECT TO WRITING**

A comma is placed before the **coordinating conjunction** if it joins two or more independent clauses unless one or both of the clauses are short. The acronym, FANBOYS (For-And-Nor-But-Or-Yet-So), may help you remember the common two or three-letter coordinating conjunctions.

**Examples:** I liked everything about her, and she also liked me. I liked her and she liked me.

A comma is placed before the second of paired **correlative conjunctions**, if the conjunction begins an independent clause. Don't use a comma to separate correlative conjunctions if they are used within the same phrase or clause. Correlative conjunctions include the following:

both...and      either...or      whether...or      neither...nor

**Example:** Either she should ask for help, or she should read the directions again.

A comma is placed after the adverbial clause, which begins with a subordinating conjunction, if the clause does not end the sentence. This memory trick may help you remember the common subordinating conjunctions: **Bud is wise, but hot! AAA WWW**

**Before** unless **despite** (in spite of) **in order that** **since** **while** **if** **since** **even though** (if),  
**because** **until** **that** **how** **once** **than!** **After** **Although** (though) **As** (As if, As long as, As much as,  
As soon as, As though) **Whether** **When** (Whenever) **Where** (Wherever)

**Example:** As much as I liked her company, she eventually became tiresome.

### **PRACTICE**

Place commas where they belong in the following sentences.

1. Neither he wanted to face the problem nor did she want to deal with that challenge.
2. In order that all people would have the same chance they decided to draw numbers.
3. Raymond sent a message to his cousin but the message was returned unopened.

### **WRITE**

Compose three of your own sentences: a compound sentence with a coordinating conjunction; a sentence with a pair of correlative conjunctions; and a sentence with a subordinating conjunction.

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## **Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet Answers**

### **Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #55 Practice Answers**

1. She told Uncle Charles that I went to see Dr. S. L. Thompson.
2. Will Mrs. James come to visit Aunt Robin and “Bubba” Peterson?
3. The army’s Captain Schneider reviewed the rules with P.F.C. Johnson.
4. Roy told Dad that Sis and I would get together at Mom’s work.
5. Officer Bob Benton issued a speed citation to Louis and his brother.

### **Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #56 Practice Answers**

1. I love to go see Broadway plays in New York City.
2. Some of the most beautiful scenery is found in Douglas County in Nevada.
3. The girls said they lived at 123 Oak Avenue in Paris, North Carolina.
4. In Southern Mississippi they still grow cotton.
5. The borough of Long Island has millions of people.
6. The Spanish own the Canary Islands off the coast of Portugal.
7. I have heard that there is an American naval base on Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean.
8. Her house is located at 342 Twenty-seventh Street.
9. For years, voters in the Deep South solidly supported the Democratic Party.

### **Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #57 Practice Answers**

1. I hear that the Alex Theater has been completely remodeled.
2. Bill Gates helped invent the Windows Operating System.
3. Ryan once climbed the stairs to the top of the Sears Tower.
4. Have you vacationed in Yosemite National Park?
5. Mr. Newton was appointed sponsor of the Spanish Club.
6. I attended first Presbyterian Church for three years.
7. Did you kiss the Blarney Stone when you went to Ireland?
8. Kenny walked across the Golden Gate Bridge.

### **Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #58 Practice Answers**

1. On the first Thanksgiving Day, Pilgrims and Native Americans shared a feast.
2. I’m sure that February 19<sup>th</sup> is Presidents Day this year.
3. Will we have cherry pie at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July party?
4. The Rose Parade is the granddaddy of all New Year’s Day parades.
5. She knows that Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday is celebrated only in the United States.
6. If Thursday will not work for you, how about Wednesday?
7. I got married on Flag Day, which is on June 14<sup>th</sup>.
8. The Chinese say that this is the Year of the Dog.
9. The Feast of Unleavened Bread is a Jewish holiday.
10. Does Santa really come down the chimney on Christmas Eve?