Two Types of Conjunctions

A conjunction is a word that joins sentences, phrases, or words together.

A coordinating conjunction joins words that are equally important in a sentence.

example:  The pelican ate a fish and flew away.

In this example, the pelican did two things that are equally important, but not necessarily related. It ate a fish. It also flew away.

The three most common coordinating conjunctions are: and, but, or

A subordinating conjunction joins words, but also shows a relationship between the words.

example:  The sky became dark because a storm was rolling in.

1. I went to bed when the sun went down.
2. Mom told me to finish my chores before I go outside.
3. Janice will sing or dance at the talent show.
4. I am not going to the movies unless Joey comes too.
5. We went to the party, but we forgot to bring a gift.
6. We can see more grass each day as the snow melts.
7. Ken caught three fish and cooked them for dinner.
8. Amy has a stomachache because she ate too much ice cream.
Use a subordinating conjunction to combine each pair of sentence. Write your new sentence on the lines below each.

9. A tree fell across the road. There was a violent storm last night.

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10. Jenna was supposed to join us for dinner. I asked the waitress for an extra menu.

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11. I walked five miles to school. I missed the bus this morning.

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12. Marshall does not put the milk back in the refrigerator. The milk spoils.

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13. Sara is afraid of heights. She will not go on the roller coaster.

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A coordinating conjunction joins words that are equally important in a sentence.

example: The pelican ate a fish and flew away.

In this example, the pelican did two things that are equally important, but not necessarily related. It ate a fish. It also flew away.

The three most common coordinating conjunctions are: and, but, or

A subordinating conjunction joins words, but also shows a relationship between the words.

example: The sky became dark because a storm was rolling in.

In this example, the sky becoming dark and the storm rolling in are both important parts that have a cause/effect relationship.

Uncoco  
1. I went to bed when the sun went down. subordinating
2. Mom told me to finish my chores before I go outside. subordinating
3. Janice will sing or dance at the talent show. coordinating
4. I am not going to the movies unless Joey comes too. subordinating
5. We went to the party, but we forgot to bring a gift. coordinating
6. We can see more grass each day as the snow melts. subordinating
7. Ken caught three fish and cooked them for dinner. coordinating
8. Amy has a stomachache because she ate too much ice cream. because

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ANSWER KEY

ANSWERS WILL VARY.

Use a subordinating conjunction to combine each pair of sentence. Write your new sentence on the lines below each.

9. A tree fell across the road.
   There was a violent storm last night.

   **A tree fell across the road because there was a violent storm last night.**

10. Jenna was supposed to join us for dinner.
    I asked the waitress for an extra menu.

    **I asked the waitress for an extra menu because Jenna was supposed to join us for dinner.**

11. I walked five miles to school.
    I missed the bus this morning.

12. Marshall does not put the milk back in the refrigerator.
    The milk spoils.

    **The milk spoils when Marshall does not put it back in the refrigerator.**

13. Sara is afraid of heights.
    She will not go on the roller coaster.

    **Sara will not go on the roller coaster if she is afraid of heights.**

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