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## **Correlative Conjunctions**

There are 10? pairs:

- -Both / And
- -Neither / Nor As many / As
- -Not only / But also -As / As
- -Either / Or
- Whether / Or

- -Such / That

- No sooner / Than
  - Rather / Than

#### **Correlative Conjunctions**

Correlative conjunctions are

- two linked words
- used to join
  - words of equal 'weight',
  - o phrases of equal 'weight', or
  - clauses of a sentence of equal 'weight'

# Correlative conjunctions make strong positive (or equally negative) connections between the 2 parts. Both/And, Either/Or and Neither/Nor make stronger connections than do the And, Or and Nor co-ordinating conjunctions. Cats and dogs make good pets. Both cats and dogs make good pets. Ron or David found my bicycle. Either Ron or David found my bicycle. I don't drive a car, nor a motorbike.

#### **Examples of Correlative Conjunctions**

I drive **neither** a car **nor** a motorbike.

- Joining words: Neither Julie nor John can play football this week.
- Joining phrases: All these clothes are either too small or worn out.
- Joining clauses: *Either* <u>Monica will bring drinks</u>, or <u>she will bring</u> <u>cakes</u>.

### *Notes about* **Correlative Conjunctions**

Not only / But [you may break here!] also. E.g.: "Not only is he a great singer, but he is also an actor."

Not only / But also has to have the subject and verb swapped in the second part:

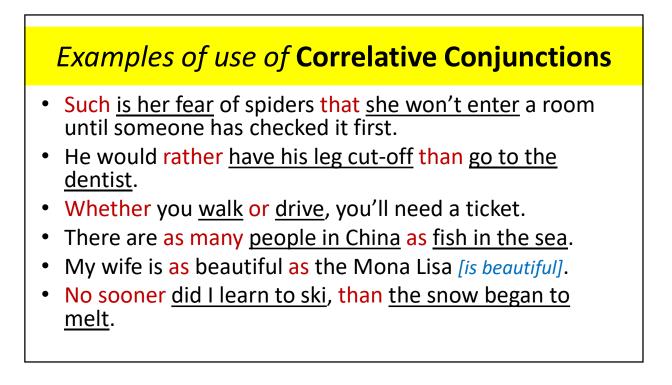
"Not only will he eat a lot, but he will also drink a lot."

#### It's easy to be confusing if the two parts don't have equal 'weight'!

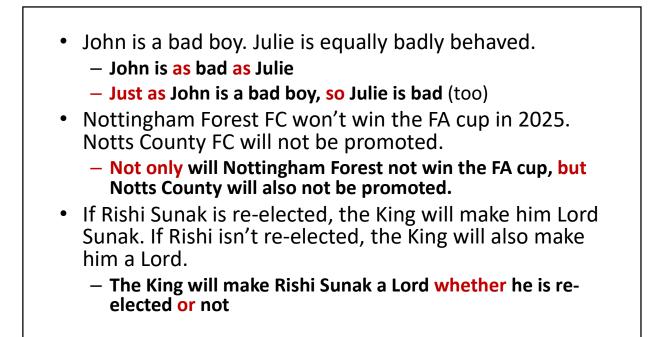
"Both John told me and Keith" = confusing. "Both John and Kevin told me" = clear "John told both Kevin and me" = clear (but different)

"Whether it rains or the party starts late, we will have a great time together" = confusing.

(What happens if it's sunny and the party starts OK?) "Whether the party starts late <u>due to rain</u> or <u>for another</u> <u>reason</u> we will have a great time together" = clear







- Yesterday Eunice planted some tomato plants. She also planted some cucumber plants.
  - Yesterday Eunice planted both some tomato and some cucumber plants
- I like playing football. I prefer playing cricket.
  - I'd rather play cricket than football
- Inflation is caused, equally, by the price of energy and the nation's financial policies.
  - Both the price of energy and the nation's financial policies cause inflation
- She finished packing at the same time that the removal lorry arrived at her house.
  - No sooner had she finished packing than the removal lorry arrived at her house