From: Quest 2, Pamela Hartmann

Transitional Expressions: Coordinating Conjunctions

An independent clause is a group of words that can stand alone. In other words, with a capital letter at the beginning and a period at the end, an independent clause is a sentence. You can join two independent clauses with a comma and a coordinating conjunction.

And introduces more information

But introduces unexpected or opposite information

Yet means “but”; it is very formal

So means “that’s why.”

For means “because”; it is very formal

Or introduces another possibility

**A. Sentence combining: Coordinating Conjunctions. Combine these sentences. Use *and*, *but*, *yet*, *or*, *for*, or *so*.**

1. She lived in Finland for 15 years. She spoke the language fluently.

2. It’s a good idea to bring a gift to the hostess. You shouldn’t bring a really expensive gift the first time you visit.

3. The company produces cars. The company produces trucks. The company produces vans.

4. You need to ask for the bill in a restaurant in Italy. The waiter won’t bring it.

5. In Spain, an older person may use your first name. You should use an older person’s last name.

6. You may have tea. You may have juice. You may have water.

7. The company wasn’t successful. It didn’t understand the business customs of the country.

8. Most people in that country speak two languages. Some speak three or four.

**B. Combine the following pairs of sentences. Choose from the group in parentheses.**

1. They discussed the sale of the house for hours and hours. They agreed on a price. (time relationship)

2. Sabri Tahir was famous for his cleverness in business. Durrell asked him for help in buying a house. (cause and effect)

3. Durrell describes Sabri as having “an air of reptilian concentration and silence.” Sabri was able to sit for a long time without moving or speaking but instead just watched. (explanation)

4. There were people of different nationalities living in the village. They got along well without many problems. (degree)

5. For many years the country had a socialist economy. Now it has a capitalist economy. (contradiction)

6. The taxes on their farm were very high, and they weren’t getting good prices for their crops. They sold the farm and moved to the city. (cause and effect)

**C. Sentence combining: transition words of time.**

1. Lucid dreamers know that they are dreaming. The dream is happening. (while)

2. You need to replay the dream in your mind. You open your eyes. (before)

3. He realized that it is only a dream. A dream enemy was chasing him. (as)

4. Replay the dream in your mind. Open your eyes and write it down. (then)

5. Greeks were sick. They went to the temple of Asklepios. (when)