

Name: _____

Date: _____

Correlative Conjunctions

Correlative Conjunctions are connectives that are always used in pairs. The most common correlative conjunctions are the following.



Either ...or

It means "one or the other". It is used in making an affirmative choice.

- You can have **either** chicken **or** meat.

Neither ... nor

It means "not one or the other". It is used in making negative choice.

- He is **neither** smart **nor** handsome.

Both ... and

It is used in expressing addition.

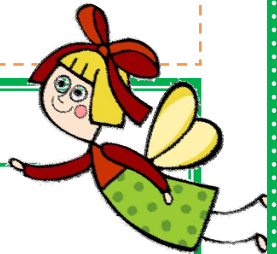
- **Both** my father **and** his brother were born in Canada.

Not only ... but also

It is used in expressing addition with emphasis.

- **Not only** is TV boring, **but it also** wastes a lot of time.

A. Join the two sentences using the correct correlative conjunction.



Carla is pretty. She is cute too.

(both...and)

(not only...but also)



Jack doesn't like eating spinach. His dad doesn't like it.

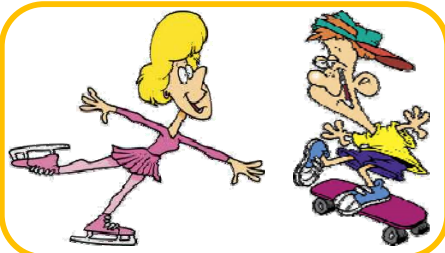
(neither...nor)

(both...and)



Jack was late to the party. Jack took a wrong road. His car got broken.

Jack was late to the party. (either... or)



Jenny loves skating. Her brother Jim loves skating too.

(both...and)

(not only...but also)

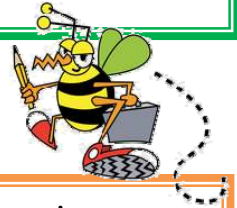


Remember

- When two subjects are joined by not only ... but also, either ... or, or neither ... nor, the subject that is closer to the verb determines whether the verb is singular or plural.
Neither the teacher nor the students are in the class.
Neither the students nor the teacher is in class.
- Sentences which begin with **neither**, **not only**, or **nor** must have subject-verb inversion.
Neither will the army retreat, nor will the terrorists surrender.
Not only did he quit smoking, **but** he **also** started to exercise regularly.



Let's practice more



B. Combine the following using appropriate paired conjunctions: both ... and; not only ... but also; either ... or; neither ... nor.

1. John is angry now. He had a fight with his wife. He had a lot of work.
.....
2. Paul doesn't want children. His wife doesn't want children.
.....
3. Snakes are reptiles. Lizards are reptiles too.
.....
4. Gloria couldn't ride a bicycle when she was a child. She can't drive a car now.
.....
5. The flight was long. The seats were uncomfortable.
.....
6. You can buy ice cream. You can get some candy. (You can't have both.)
.....
7. Brain teasers are useful. They are also entertaining.
.....
8. Some gems are very expensive. They are hard to find too.
.....

C. Find the one grammatical error in the following sentences and correct it.

1. Sal can't neither pitch nor catch.
.....
2. Both the teacher and the student is in class.
.....
3. Neither Jim's brother knows where he is, nor do his friends have any idea about him.
.....
4. You can either go to the cinema or to the restaurant.
.....
5. Not only Sarah hit the boy with her car, but she ran away.
.....

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Correlative Conjunctions Quiz

A. Rewrite the following sentences starting as indicated.

1. You can walk to school, or we can go by bus.

We can

2. The judge postponed the hearing. He put them both in jail.

Not only

3. Julia Roberts is paid millions for her movies. Angelina Jolie is paid millions for her movies.

Both

4. I didn't stay in bed to rest. I didn't take medicine to get better.

Neither

5. Jack told the police about the crime. His parents talked to the press.

Either

6. Elephants can be found in Africa. Tigers can be found in Africa.

Both

7. He shouted at her. He used to beat her harshly.

Not only

8. Saying sorry won't solve the problem. Money won't solve the problem.

Neither

9. Stop talking. I will take your test sheets.

Either you

10. Dan didn't order the hamburger. Sarah didn't ask for pizza.

Neither

B. Identify the one grammatical error in the following sentences and correct them.

1. You either can watch the movie or listen to music.

.....

2. I can neither remember the time of the appointment nor the place.

.....

3. Not only he threatened her, but he made someone watch her all the time.

.....

4. Mary talks both politely and with respect with older people.

.....

5. Neither the players nor the coach were excited about the results.

.....

Answer key of the worksheet

A. Join the two sentences using the correct correlative conjunction.

1. Carla is both pretty and cute. / Not only is Carla pretty, but she is also cute.
2. Neither Jack nor his dad likes eating spinach. / Both Jack and his dad don't like eating spinach.
3. Jack was late to the party. Either Jack took a wrong road, or his car got broken.
4. Both Jenny and her brother Jim love skating. / Not only Jenny but also her brother loves skating.

B. Combine the following using appropriate paired conjunctions: both ... and; not only ... but also; either ... or; neither ... nor.

1. John is angry now. He had either a fight with his wife or a lot of work.
2. Neither Paul nor his wife wants children.
3. Both snakes and lizards are reptiles.
4. Neither could Gloria ride a bicycle when she was a child, not can she drive a car now.
5. Not only was the flight long, but also the seats were uncomfortable.
6. You can either buy ice cream or get some candy. (You can't have both.)
7. Not only are brain teasers useful, but they are also entertaining.
8. Some gems are both very expensive and hard to find.

C. Find the one grammatical error in the following sentences and correct it.

1. Sal can't neither pitch nor catch.
Sal can neither pitch nor catch.
2. Both the teacher and the student is in class.
Both the teacher and the student are in class.
3. Neither Jim's brother knows where she is, nor do his friends have any idea about her.
Neither does Jim's brother know where he is, nor do his friends have any idea about him.
4. You can either go to the cinema or to the restaurant.
You can go either to the cinema or to the restaurant.
5. Not only Sarah hit the boy with her car, but she also ran away.
Not only did Sarah hit the boy with her car, but she also ran away.

Quiz answer key

A. Rewrite the following sentences starting as indicated.

1. We can either walk to school or go by bus.
2. Not only did the judge postpone the hearing, but he also put them both in jail.
3. Both Julia Roberts and Angelina Jolie are paid millions for their movies.
4. Neither did I stay in bed to rest, nor did I take medicine to get better.
5. Either Jack told the police about the crime, or his parents talked to the press.
6. Both elephants and tigers can be found in Africa.
7. Not only did he shout at her, but he also used to beat her harshly.
8. Neither saying sorry nor money will solve the problem.
9. Either you stop talking or I will take your test sheets.

10. Neither did Dan order the hamburger, nor did Sarah ask for pizza.

B. Identify the one grammatical error in the following sentences and correct them.

1. You either can watch the movie or listen to music.

You can either watch the movie or listen to music.

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I can remember neither the time of the appointment nor the place.

3. Not only he threatened her, but he made someone watch her all the time.

Not only did he threaten her, but he also made someone watch her all the time.

4. Mary talks both politely and with respect with older people.

Mary talks both politely and respectfully with older people.

5. Neither the players nor the coach were excited about the results.

Neither the players nor the coach was excited about the results.