

Conjunctions: Correlative

1. **BOTH...AND** is a structure that includes two ideas in a situation. If the structures are subject nouns, they take a plural verb.

Ex. Both Ricky and his cousin **have to** clean up their rooms.
Both Mary and Max **are** going to the concert

2. **EITHER...OR** is a structure that states only one of two nouns is included or considered in a situation. If the structure is managing two subject nouns, the noun closest to the verb influences whether the verb is singular or plural.

Ex. Either my neighbours or Sally **is** going to have to clean up the litter on our lawn.
Either Tom or his brothers **are** going to win the bet.

3. **NEITHER...NOR** is the negative counterpart of both...and. The subject that is closer to the verb determines whether the verb is singular or plural.

Ex. Neither my sisters nor my mother **is** staying with me.
Neither Rebecca nor her aunts **want** to participate in the contest.

4. **NOT (ONLY)...BUT (ALSO)** has two possibilities. When 'only' is present, it emphasizes that two situations or states are present. When 'only' and 'also' are absent, it emphasizes that one thing is true or present, but that the other is not. The subject that is closer to the verb determines whether the verb is singular or plural.

Ex. Not only my sisters but also my father **likes** pasta.
Not the chocolate ice cream but the vanilla ice cream **is** on sale.
Not only my husband but also my children **have** blue eyes.

Combine these pairs of sentences into one sentence using the appropriate **CORRELATIVE CONJUNCTION**.

Example: Maybe it will rain tomorrow. Maybe it won't rain tomorrow.

→Either it will rain tomorrow or it won't.

1. The television may have been invented in Russia. It may have been invented in the USA.

2. We could decide to establish lunar colonies. We could decide to stay on Earth.

Advanced 3 – Exercise 23 – Conjunctions: Correlative

3. He didn't become a millionaire by winning the lottery. He didn't inherit a fortune; he worked hard.

4. Our team might win the World Series. Some other team might win it.

5. We spent the summer in Tuscany. We decided to stay permanently.

6. Fried foods aren't good for you. Refined sugar isn't good for you.

7. David's new girlfriend is intelligent. She is also cute.

Correct these CONJUNCTIONS.

1. Either John will help you type the report or Paul.
2. Not only she dated my brother but married him.
3. Either the bank or my accountants has to cash your cheque.
4. She not only skis quickly but expertly.
5. Maria enjoys not only abstract painting but also landscape.
6. Both soft drinks contain sugar and candy bars.