

# Using Coordination and Subordination

## *What is Coordination and Subordination?*

*Coordination* is the act of connecting two ideas of equal weight and importance. *Subordination* involves identifying one idea as less important than another. Coordination and Subordination allow writers to make connections between ideas, emphasize certain ideas as more important than others, and create transitions between different ideas.

### *Coordinate ideas by...*

#### ⇒ **Using a transitional phrase to connect two independent clauses**

Some examples of transitional phrases include: *after all, even so, in addition, on the contrary*, etc.

### *Coordination looks like...*

- *She passed the test. She studied all weekend.*

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- ***She passed the test. After all, she studied all weekend.***

#### ⇒ **Using a semicolon followed by a conjunctive adverb**

The conjunctive adverb is normally followed a comma. Some examples of conjunctive adverbs include: *however, therefore, consequently*, etc.

- *She studied all weekend. She passed the test*

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- ***She studied all weekend; consequently, she passed the test.***

### *Subordinate ideas by...*

#### ⇒ **Using a subordinating conjunctions or relative pronoun to convey the relationship between the two ideas**

In order to distinguish one idea as more important than another, one may use a subordinating conjunction or a relative pronoun. Some examples of subordinating conjunctions are: *although, because, since, while, as*, etc. Some examples of relative pronouns are: *that, which*, and *who*. Subordinate clauses are also commonly called *relative clauses, dependent clauses, adjective clauses, descriptive clauses*, or *who clauses*.

### *Subordination looks like...*

- *Sarah hates public speaking. She gave a speech in honor of her favorite charity.*

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- ***Although Sarah hates public speaking, she gave a speech in honor of her favorite charity.***