

The Conjunction B

12d. A **conjunction** is a word used to join words or groups of words.

Coordinating conjunctions—*and, but, for, nor, or, so, and yet*—join words or groups of words that are used in the same way.

EXAMPLE Birthdays **and** wedding anniversaries are among the events we celebrate.

Correlative conjunctions are pairs of conjunctions that join words or word groups that are used in the same way. The correlative conjunctions are *both . . . and, either . . . or, neither . . . nor, not only . . . but also*, and *whether . . . or*.

EXAMPLE Their family celebrates **not only** birthdays **but also** name days.

EXERCISE A Circle the coordinating conjunction in each of the following sentences. Then, underline the words or word groups that the conjunction joins.

Example 1. All around the world people hold parties, **and** they have festive celebrations.

- Many African American families celebrate Juneteenth and Kwanzaa.
- At an African coming-of-age party, there are music and dancing.
- At a Jewish bar mitzvah or bat mitzvah, there is prayer.
- At a Polish or Mexican wedding, the bride collects money during a special dance.
- For some, weddings are held in houses of worship, for they are religious ceremonies.
- Some wedding ceremonies are not religious, so they are held at home.
- Nearly all people welcome the new year, yet not everyone celebrates it on January 1.
- New Year's Day is the same day each year in Sweden, but it falls on different days in Vietnam.
- The Chinese celebrate January 1 and their lunar new year.
- Name a holiday or festival that is important to your family.

EXERCISE B Circle the correlative conjunctions in each of the following sentences. Then, underline the words or word groups that the conjunctions join.

Example 1. Unique species of **both** plants **and** animals exist in rain forests.

- Not only parrots but also hornbills can be seen in some rain forests.
- Both eagles and monkeys live in rain forests, too.
- Either people take steps to save the rain forests now, or these habitats will be lost.
- The question is not whether the rich nations or the poor ones are at fault.
- Neither one group nor another is solely to blame for the destruction of the rain forests.