Use Before Coordinating Conjunctions

When linking two independent clauses with a coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS: **for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so**), insert a comma.

Critical Vocabulary

- **Conjunction**: A word that connects clauses, sentences, or words.
- **Clause**: A group of words containing a subject and a predicate. It can be independent (a complete sentence) or dependent (needs an independent clause).

Clauses

Independent Clauses: Complete sentences that express a full thought. They contain a subject and a verb, and they can stand alone.

- *Example*: "She ran to the store."

Dependent Clauses: Contain a subject and a verb but do not express a complete thought. They can't stand alone and need an independent clause to make sense.

- *Example*: "Because she was late."

Steps to Identify Clauses

1. **Look for the subject**. *(Who is the sentence about?)*
2. **Identify the predicate**. *(What is happening in the sentence?)*
3. **Confirm independence**. *(Does it make sense on its own?)*

Coordinating Conjunctions (FANBOYS)

For

- *Purpose*: Explains reason or purpose.
- *Example*: "I'll bring my umbrella, for it looks like rain."

And

- *Purpose*: Adds one thing to another.
- *Example*: "We ordered burgers, fries, and a shake."

Or

- *Purpose*: Presents choices or alternatives.
- *Example*: "Would you like tea, or would you prefer coffee?"

Nor

- *Purpose*: Connects two negatives to offer another option.
- *Example*: "She didn't like the movie, nor did she enjoy the book."

But

- *Purpose*: Shows contrast or contradiction.
- *Example*: "I wanted to stay, but I was too tired."

Yet

- *Purpose*: Introduces a contrasting idea that follows logically.
- *Example*: "She is small, yet she is mighty."

So

- *Purpose*: Indicates effect, result, or consequence.
- *Example*: "It was late, so I went home."

Big Point

The presence of a coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS) does not mean that there has to be a comma. Both sides of the comma must be independent clauses (complete sentences).

Assignment

1. Join the Space: https://app.schoolai.com/space?code=OYJW
2. Follow the directions and complete the three trials.
   a. Remember, you can use your prompting skills to help support yourself.
   b. Copy/paste is your friend!
   c. Try asking for a hint or a new sentence if you get stuck!

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