

Le congiunzioni



Le congiunzioni sono parole invariabili che servono a collegare tra di loro parti di una frase o due o più frasi. Le principali sono:

- **And** significa 'e' e si usa per unire due espressioni o frasi
I'm buying a pair of jeans **and** a jumper. *Sto comprando un paio di jeans e un maglione.*
- **But** significa 'ma' e si usa per esprimere un'opposizione, un contrasto
I'm coming to the party, **but** I'm leaving early. *Vengo alla festa, ma andrò via presto.*
- **Or** significa 'o / oppure' e si usa per esprimere un'alternativa
Do you play the piano **or** the guitar? *Suoni il piano o la chitarra?*
- **When** significa 'quando' e si usa per dare un'indicazione temporale
Don't go out alone **when** it's dark. *Non uscire da solo quando fa buio.*
- **While** significa 'mentre' e si usa per indicare la contemporaneità di due azioni
I can do the washing up **while** you're looking after your brother.
Posso lavare i piatti mentre tu ti occupi di tuo fratello.
- **So** significa 'perciò' e si usa per esprimere la conseguenza di qualcosa
I'm really tired, **so** I'm going to sleep. *Sono veramente stanco, perciò vado a dormire.*
- **Because** significa 'perché' e si usa per spiegare il motivo, la causa di un evento
I can't come to the cinema with you **because** I've got a test at school tomorrow.
Non posso venire al cinema con te perché domani ho un test a scuola.



Watch out!

Ricorda che si usa **Why** nelle domande e **because** nelle risposte (► 11 Le question words):

'**Why** are you so happy?'
'Perché sei così felice?'

'**Because** I've got the winning lottery ticket!'
'Perché ho il biglietto vincente della lotteria!'

- **If** significa 'se' e si usa per introdurre un'ipotesi (► 19 Il periodo ipotetico)
If you help me with the homework, I'll lend you my scooter.
Se mi aiuti con il compito, ti presterò il mio motorino.
- **Unless** significa 'a meno che' e si usa sempre nelle ipotesi (► 19 Il periodo ipotetico)
I'm buying you an iPod, **unless** you've already got one.
Ti compro un iPod, a meno che tu non ne abbia già uno.

Attenzione! Osserva come nella frase in italiano il verbo sia alla forma negativa.

Your turn

1 Completa le frasi con *and* o *but*.

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Ex. She's good-looking *but* she isn't very friendly.

- 1 It's warm sunny outside.
- 2 It's warm there's a lot of wind.
- 3 He gets up early always arrives late for school.
- 4 Everybody likes this group they're a great success in the Charts.
- 5 I'm tired hungry.
- 6 I can tell you my secret please don't tell anyone.

2 Completa le frasi con *because* o *but*.

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Ex. She's going home *because* she's tired.

- 1 I've got his email I haven't got his mobile number.
- 2 They can't come to the concert there are no tickets.
- 3 I like pasta I don't like potatoes.
- 4 It's sunny cold, too.
- 5 Harry does well at school he studies all the time.
- 6 I'm happy the holidays start tomorrow.

3 Unisci le due frasi usando *because* e *so*.

••○

Ex. I was tired. I went home.

I went home *because* I was tired.

I was tired *so* I went home.

- 1 He arrived late. I got angry.
.....
- 2 I didn't enjoy the film. There was too much violence.
.....
- 3 I never go to London. It's too crowded.
.....
- 4 I haven't got a passport. I can't go to China.
.....
- 5 It's raining. We can't go out.
.....

4 Completa le frasi con una congiunzione del riquadro.

••○

but (x3) while (x2) so (x2) because and

Ex. Look after the children *while* I'm out.

- 1 He's studying a lot he's really tired.
- 2 I play volleyball a lot I'm not very good at it.
- 3 It's a big house it hasn't got a garden.
- 4 I want to go out it's my birthday today.
- 5 He's tall, dark good-looking.
- 6 You can wait in the car I do the shopping.
- 7 We'd like to go to the museum it's closed today.
- 8 He's got an exam tomorrow he's not coming.
- 9 Watch the coffee I put the rubbish outside.

5 Scegli la congiunzione corretta nelle seguenti frasi.

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Ex. I'd like to come *and* / *because* / (*but*) I'm afraid I can't.

- 1 I can give you some coke *and* / *or* / *but* lemonade, which do you prefer?
- 2 I'm angry *so* / *but* / *because* you're late.
- 3 I'll have a coffee *but* / *because* / *while* you get the petrol.
- 4 It's 4.30 and the shops close at 5pm *so* / *while* / *because* we've still got time.
- 5 I went last time *so* / *and* / *but* it's your turn today.
- 6 He doesn't speak to me *so* / *because* / *while* I insulted him.
- 7 It's late *so* / *because* / *or* I'm going home.
- 8 My brother's tall *and* / *but* / *so* good-looking.
- 9 Think of me *and* / *when* / *so* you're in England.
- 10 Don't disturb me *or* / *and* / *while* I'm working.

6 Completa le frasi con *so*, *because*, *while*.

Ex. It's early so we can sit down and wait.

- 1 Hold my bag I call Jenny.
- 2 He doesn't want to travel he doesn't speak any English.
- 3 It's late I'm going home.
- 4 It's not hot today it rained last night.
- 5 They don't like pizza they don't want to come to the pizzeria.
- 6 Please stand in a line we check the names.
- 7 The hotel's full that night we need to find another one.

7 Scegli la congiunzione corretta.

Ex. I'm having lunch so / because / or I'm hungry.

- 1 I can come to the disco and / but / so I have to go home at 10.30.
- 2 Call me if / when / because you arrive.
- 3 I like shopping so / and / because going out with friends.
- 4 Make the tea while / so / because I wash my hands.
- 5 Do you prefer cereal but / or / if toast in the morning?
- 6 Call me if / and / because you find the jacket in the shop.

8 Trasforma le frasi con *if* in frasi con *unless* e viceversa.

Ex. Don't call me if there aren't problems.

Don't call me unless there are problems.

- 1 I won't wait for you if you don't call me first.
.....
- 2 Unless you study harder, you won't pass your exam.
.....
- 3 I don't like holiday villages if there isn't a swimming pool.
.....
- 4 Everything will be OK if you don't do anything stupid.
.....
- 5 If the weather doesn't get better, we'll have to cancel the match.
.....

9 Riordina le parole per formare frasi di senso compiuto.

Ex. home / Go / tired / if / are / you

Go home if you're tired.

- 1 car / like / it's / but / I / this / expensive
.....
- 2 tired / was / so / went / bed / to / Pietro / he
.....
- 3 love / I / chocolate / ice-cream / and
.....
- 4 problems / Don't / me / there / are / call / unless
.....
- 5 to / the museum / go / the park / or / can / We
.....
- 6 shopping / Wait / car / do / I / while / the / the / in
.....

10 Completa il brano con *and*, *but*, *when*, *because*, *or*, *if*, *until*.

In the UK many young people finish school when they are 16 1) others decide to stay 2) they are 18. 3) you pass your GCSE exams at 16 you can study three subjects for the next two years 4) you can go to university 5) you pass your 'A' levels at 18, 6) it's not easy – less than 50% continue their studies at university. Some people start going to college at 16 7) they like studying. Others get a Saturday job 8) they're studying so they can buy clothes 9) have money to go out.

11 Scrivi sei frasi usando un elemento di ogni colonna.

I never study	if	there's a discount.
I enjoy travelling	so	I get bad marks at school.
I call my friends	and	they've always got a lot of homework.
They don't go out	because	meeting new people.
I'm sad	when	I have a bad day at school.
Don't buy it	unless	we can start going to the beach.

12 Completa il brano con le parole nel riquadro.

funniest but (x3) unless when
angrier while so (x3) and (x4)
more surprised because

Yesterday was definitely the funniest day of my life. My brother's always horrible to me and my sister 1) we decided to play a trick on him. We took his new iPod 2) we put it under the wardrobe. My brother immediately looked for his iPod 3) he came home 4) he couldn't find it anywhere. He was really angry 5) he was even 6) when we told him that we'd taken his iPod. He said he'd tell our parents 7) we told him where it was. Me and my sister were a bit worried 8) we decided to tell him where it was. My brother went to the wardrobe 9) put his hand under it. After a few seconds he started shouting 10) he couldn't move his hand. We thought he was joking 11) then we realised he was serious. The wardrobe was really heavy 12) we couldn't possibly move it. My sister stayed with my brother 13) I went to call the fire brigade 14) my parents. The fire brigade arrived at the same time as my parents. I think they were 15) than my parents to see this boy with his arm under the wardrobe. In a few minutes my brother was free 16) luckily my parents saw the funny side of it.

13 Scegli la congiunzione corretta.

- Ex. You can have a banana or / because / but an apple.
- Don't call me *unless* / *and* / *but* there are problems.
 - Tell me *unless* / *when* / *or* you're ready to leave.
 - I can't tell you *so* / *because* / *but* I don't know.
 - I'm Italian *unless* / *so* / *but* my parents are English.

14 Unisci le frasi con una congiunzione nel riquadro.

while unless ~~so~~ and because
when but

- Ex. It's hot and sunny. I'm going outside.
It's hot and sunny so I'm going outside.
- Wait for me. I do the shopping.
.....
 - I've got the results of my test. They're not very good.
.....
 - You can't enter. You're too young.
.....
 - It's difficult to find the museum. You have good directions.
.....
 - Give me a call. You arrive at the airport.
.....
 - I like playing football. I like seeing friends at the weekend.
.....

15 Traduci le frasi.

- A meno che non mi dia tutte le informazioni non ti posso aiutare.
- È tardi quindi vado a scuola in autobus.
- Non mi piace l'Inghilterra perché fa troppo freddo.
- Sono seduto in spiaggia mentre ti scrivo questa cartolina.
- Il sabato mi piace uscire con gli amici o giocare a tennis.
- Studio sempre se ho una verifica.
- Durante le vacanze vado al mare e prendo il sole.