

Paired Conjunctions
(Correlative Conjunctions)

+ **(positive)**

both...and = 2
not only...but also = 2 (use for surprise or something you don't expect)

- **(negative)**

neither...nor = 0

(choice)

either...or = 1

Examples:

- (a) Both Tom and Jerry were unhappy with the result. (= 2)
- (b) For breakfast, Jack ate not only a turkey but also a dozen eggs. (= 2, surprise)
- (c) I have neither the time nor the money. (= 0)
- (d) You can either help or leave. (= 1)

You may be confused with “either” because it is also used in *negative agreement* and means “0”.

A: I don't have any money.
B: I don't either. = 0 (or Neither do I.)

Correlative Conjunctions

Directions:

- A. In the left margin, write the number 2, 1, or 0 to show the meaning of the sentence.
- B. Underline the two parallel parts of the sentence.
- C. In the right margin, write S, V, or O for the parallel structure.

- Example: S V S V baseball and basketball. = O
- 2 When I was young, I used to play both
- 2 S V = S
1. Both my sister and my brother are very tall.
 2. I have neither the time nor the money to go snowboarding this weekend.
 3. I will either call a travel agent or check the website to buy a plane ticket.
 4. My daughter can not only ride a unicycle but also juggle!
 5. Kelly speaks both German and Spanish.
 6. Either my father or my mother calls me every Sunday evening.
 7. When I feel tired, I either listen to music or take a bath.
 8. New college students must take both an English and a math placement test.
 9. I've neither read the book nor seen the movie of *Lord of the Rings*.
 10. Neither the Seahawks nor the Sonics have played very well this year.
 11. Not only the students but also their teacher likes studying grammar.
 12. I need to buy both a radio and a VCR soon.

- D. Notice the word order: Where does the correlative conjunction (either, not only, both, neither) go? (Choose one answer)
 - a. at the beginning of the sentence
 - b. at the end of the sentence
 - c. just before the first "parallel" word
 - d. in the middle between the two parallel words.