

Connectors Exercises: And, But, Or, Because, So, Then, When

Level: A2

Connectors: join your ideas

A connector is a small word that joins two ideas. With connectors, you can make longer sentences: I was ill, so I stayed at home.

And, but, or: Use and to add an idea: I have a brother and a sister. Use but for a different idea: I want to go out, but it is raining. Use or for a choice: Do you want tea or coffee?

Because: Use because to give the reason: I stayed at home because I was ill. The reason comes after because.

So: Use so to give the result: I was ill, so I stayed at home. The result comes after so. Write a comma before so and before but.

Then: Use then for the next thing that happens: First I have breakfast. Then I go to work.

When: Use when for the time of something: When I get home, I have a shower. You can say it first, with a comma, or second, with no comma: I have a shower when I get home.

Before and after: Use before and after to show the order. I have a shower before dinner means the shower comes first. After work, I go home means work comes first.

Exercise 1: Choose the Correct Connector

Choose the correct word.

1. I like tennis, ___ I don't like football.
a) but b) so c) or
2. Do you want a coffee ___ a tea?
a) or b) and c) so
3. She is happy ___ it is her birthday.
a) because b) so c) but
4. It is cold, ___ I am wearing a coat.
a) so b) because c) or
5. ___ I get up, I drink a glass of water.
a) When b) Then c) But
6. Wash your hands ___ you eat.
a) before b) but c) so

Exercise 2: Fill in the Blank

Type the correct connector. The hint shows the words to choose from.

7. I was tired, ___ I went to bed early. (so or because)

8. I went to bed early ___ I was tired. (so or because)
9. He likes cats, ___ he doesn't like dogs. (and or but)
10. Is it Monday ___ Tuesday today? (and or or)
11. My homework is at five and dinner is at six, so I do my homework ___ dinner. (before or after)
12. First I do my homework. ___ I watch TV. (then or because)
13. ___ I am tired, I drink coffee. (when or then)

Exercise 3: Put the Words in Order

Click the words in the correct order to build the sentence.

14. Put the words in the correct order: **at / so / I / ill / , / stayed / was / I / home / .**

15. Put the words in the correct order: **now / go / Do / to / you / later / or / want / ?**

16. Put the words in the correct order: **go / I / After / , / home / class / .**

17. Put the words in the correct order: **he / bus / late / He / because / missed / is / the / .**

Exercise 4: True or False

Decide if each statement is true or false.

18. In 'I was tired, so I went to bed', the word 'so' gives the reason. True / False
19. In 'He was late because he missed the bus', missing the bus is the reason. True / False
20. We use 'but' when the second idea is different: 'It is sunny, but it is cold.' True / False
21. In 'I wash my hands before I eat', I eat first. True / False
22. We use 'or' to talk about a choice: 'Do you want tea or coffee?' True / False

Answer key

Exercise 1: Choose the Correct Connector

1. a) but
2. a) or
3. a) because
4. a) so
5. a) When
6. a) before

Exercise 2: Fill in the Blank

7. so
8. because
9. but
10. or
11. before
12. Then
13. When

Exercise 3: Put the Words in Order

14. I was ill, so I stayed at home.
15. Do you want to go now or later?
16. After class, I go home.
17. He is late because he missed the bus.

Exercise 4: True or False

18. False
19. True
20. True
21. False
22. True