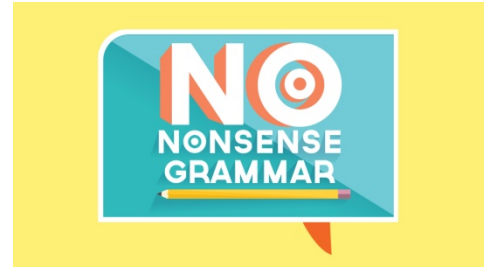


No Nonsense Grammar



How to Use Commas with Coordinating Conjunctions

A comma is a punctuation mark that indicates a pause. It can be used to separate independent clauses (parts of a sentence that have all the elements of a complete sentence).

When a coordinating conjunction joins two independent clauses, a comma is used before the coordinating conjunction. In other words, place a comma before (in front of) the *words and, but, for, nor, or so, yet* in a sentence that has two parts. For example:

- He said yes, but I said no.
- The day was beautiful, and I smiled.
- Do you want to go to the beach, or do you want to go to hiking?