

Correlative Conjunctions Practice Worksheet

B2-C1 grammar practice with mixed exercises and answer key

Name: _____ Date: _____

Pairs and patterns covered: either...or, neither...nor, both...and, not only...but also, whether...or, would rather...than, as...as, such...that, no sooner...than, and hardly...when.

Remember: keep the structure parallel and check subject-verb agreement carefully.

Exercise 1 - Complete the sentences

Complete each sentence with the correct correlative conjunction or paired structure.

1. We can go _____ by bus _____ by train; I do not mind either option.
2. _____ the teacher _____ the students were prepared for the fire drill.
3. She is _____ talented _____ hardworking, so everyone expects her to do well.
4. I have not decided _____ to accept the offer _____ to wait for another one.
5. I would _____ stay at home _____ go out in the rain.
6. The lecture was _____ boring _____ several students nearly fell asleep.
7. This exercise is not _____ difficult _____ the previous one.
8. _____ had we sat down _____ the waiter brought the menus.
9. _____ had Olivia opened the window _____ she heard the birds singing.
10. The new cafe is _____ cosy _____ affordable, which is why it is always busy.
11. He speaks _____ French _____ Spanish, but he cannot speak Italian.
12. The play was _____ entertaining _____ thought-provoking.

Exercise 2 - Choose the correct option

Choose the correct option in brackets.

1. Either my brother or my parents (is / are) coming to the ceremony.
2. Neither the lights nor the heating (was / were) working properly.
3. She would rather (to walk / walk) than wait for a taxi.
4. The film was such (a / an) inspiring story that everyone applauded at the end.
5. Whether you like it or (not / no), the rules still apply.
6. No sooner had the lesson started (than / when) the fire alarm went off.
7. This suitcase is not as (heavy / heavily) as the old one.
8. He is both polite (and / but also) reliable.
9. Not only did she pass the exam, (but / and) she also got an A.
10. There were as (many / much) chairs as guests in the room.

Exercise 3 - Correct the mistakes

Each sentence contains one mistake. Rewrite each sentence correctly.

1. Neither Anna or her sister wants to drive at night.
2. I would rather to stay here than go outside.
3. The task was such difficult that nobody finished it on time.
4. Both the manager as well as the staff were shocked by the news.
5. No sooner we arrived than the meeting began.
6. She is not only creative but also she is very patient.
7. Whether you agree or not you must still complete the form.
8. This bag is not as expensive than the one I saw yesterday.
9. Hardly had I closed my laptop than the lights went out.
10. Either the teacher or the students is responsible for the mess.

Exercise 4 - Rewrite the sentences

Rewrite the second sentence so that it means the same as the first sentence. Use the given word or phrase.

1. I can have fish. I can have chicken. (either ... or)
2. She is intelligent. She is ambitious. (both ... and)
3. He did not apologise. He did not explain. (neither ... nor)
4. I prefer reading at home to going to crowded cafes. (would rather ... than)
5. The weather was very bad, so we stayed indoors. (such ... that)
6. The blue sofa is less comfortable than the grey one. (not as ... as)
7. She won the prize. She also donated the money. (not only ... but also)
8. He opened the door. Immediately, the dog ran out. (hardly ... when)

Exercise 5 - Paragraph completion

Complete the short text with suitable correlative conjunctions or paired structures.

Last weekend, my cousin and I could (1) _____ go hiking _____ stay at home and watch films. In the end, we chose the mountains because the weather looked perfect. The walk was (2) _____ peaceful _____ exciting, as we found a beautiful lake at the top. We had packed (3) _____ sandwiches _____ fruit, so we had plenty to eat. I was tired, but I would (4) _____ keep walking _____ miss the view from the top. (5) _____ had we reached the lake _____ it started to drizzle, but luckily we had jackets. The rain was not (6) _____ heavy _____ we had expected, so we stayed a little longer. It was (7) _____ a lovely afternoon _____ we forgot about time completely. In fact, I am not sure (8) _____ I enjoyed the walk more _____ the picnic by the lake.

Exercise 6 - Your own sentences

Write your own sentence for each prompt. Use the target structure correctly.

1. Write one sentence with either ... or about travel.

2. Write one sentence with neither ... nor about food.

3. Write one sentence with both ... and about a person you admire.

4. Write one sentence with not only ... but also about learning English.

5. Write one sentence with would rather ... than about free time.

6. Write one sentence with as ... as or not as ... as about two places or things.

Answer Key

Exercise 1

1. either ... or
2. neither ... nor
3. both ... and
4. whether ... or
5. rather ... than
6. such ... that
7. as ... as
8. No sooner ... than
9. Hardly ... when
10. both ... and
11. neither ... nor
12. not only ... but also

Exercise 2

1. are
2. was
3. walk
4. an
5. not
6. than
7. heavy
8. and
9. but
10. many

Exercise 3

1. Neither Anna nor her sister wants to drive at night.
2. I would rather stay here than go outside.
3. The task was so difficult that nobody finished it on time. / The task was such a difficult one that nobody finished it on time.
4. Both the manager and the staff were shocked by the news.
5. No sooner had we arrived than the meeting began.
6. She is not only creative but also very patient.
7. Whether you agree or not, you must still complete the form.
8. This bag is not as expensive as the one I saw yesterday.
9. Hardly had I closed my laptop when the lights went out.
10. Either the teacher or the students are responsible for the mess.

Exercise 4

1. I can have either fish or chicken.
2. She is both intelligent and ambitious.
3. He neither apologised nor explained.
4. I would rather read at home than go to crowded cafes.
5. It was such bad weather that we stayed indoors.
6. The blue sofa is not as comfortable as the grey one.
7. She not only won the prize but also donated the money.

8. Hardly had he opened the door when the dog ran out.

Exercise 5

1. either ... or
2. both ... and
3. both ... and
4. rather ... than
5. No sooner ... than
6. as ... as
7. such ... that
8. whether ... or

Exercise 6

Answers will vary. Check that the learner uses the target pair correctly, keeps the structure parallel, and chooses the right verb agreement.

Marking tip: with either...or and neither...nor, the verb usually agrees with the subject closest to it.