



Mac and Rory Grammar Stories Lesson Plan – Conjunctions (Surfing Or Stargazing?)

1. Lesson Aim

The aim of this lesson is to help students to join sentences using: and, or, but, so, and because.

2. Warm-Up

Choose a topic that is of interest to your students, for example, a local festival that is happening soon. Ask your students some questions about it.

- Why are they decorating the street? *It's the festival of*
- What happens during the festival? *There's a parade and a party.*
- How long does it go on for? *It finishes at 12.00 midnight.*
- Can children stay until the end? *Yes.*
- Is there school the next day? *No.*

As your students answer the questions, write sentences on the board about what they are telling you. Join the sentences with conjunctions and underline them.

There are decorations in the street... because ...there is a festival tomorrow.

There will be a parade... and... (there will be) a party.

It finishes late... but... the kids can stay up late.

There is no school the next day... so... we can sleep in late.

Ask your students what these underlined words do. Explain that these words are called conjunctions. Now say these are the subject of our lesson today.

3. Reading The Mac And Rory Grammar Story

Read the *Mac and Rory Grammar Story – Conjunctions*. You can either bring students through the online version or hand out the paper version. If you are using the paper version, ask for volunteers to play the roles of Mac and Rory and get them to read the story aloud.

4. Vocabulary

Read the Glossary at the end of the story. Check that your students understand all the words and phrases.

5. Story Discussion

Go through each picture of the *Mac and Rory Grammar Story – Conjunctions*, asking questions and explaining the grammar points as you go.

We use link words (conjunctions) to join sentences. The conjunction “so” means “as a result”.

Ireland is an island in the North Atlantic Ocean...
...so...
...it has great waves for surfing.

“Because” means “the reason for something”.

We can also put “because” at the beginning of a sentence.

– Because he’s a good surfer, Rory wants to go on a surfing holiday.



6. Activities

Ask your students to complete a *Mac And Rory Grammar Story Practice Sheet*.

7. Find The Match

Think up a number of sentences using conjunctions. Divide up the sentences and write them on different pieces of paper. For example,

Mac and Rory want to go home...

... because they are tired.

Make sure you have enough pieces of paper for everyone in the class. Hand out the pieces of paper and ask your students to find the matching piece of paper to make a full sentence. When two students find a match, get them to write the sentence on the board for the class to see.

8. Homework – My Dog Ate My Homework

“My dog ate my homework” is an expression we use in English to describe a really bad excuse. Discuss with your students a really bad excuse for not doing their homework – the crazier the better. As you discuss the excuse, write key vocabulary on the board, but don’t write full sentences. When you’re finished, ask your students to write an excuse out at home, using the vocabulary that you’ve written on the board and using the conjunctions that you covered in the class.

An example could be...

I didn’t do my homework because on the way home I dropped my bag. It was full of my books so everything fell out onto the road. A car went past and blew my things everywhere. I picked up everything but when I got home I couldn’t find my homework.

9. Summary And Finish

Tell your students that it’s the end of the class. Ask them...

- What did we do today?
Conjunctions
- What are they for? *Joining up sentences.*
- What conjunctions did we do?
And, so, but, because, or

10. Extra Activities

Dictation

Rory loves surfing but Mac prefers stargazing. Rory thinks stargazing is boring and Mac doesn’t like the sea. They both need a holiday so they go to Mayo. They choose Mayo because it has good waves and a dark sky park.

20. Find The Conjunctions

Find a piece of text from a book, a website or a magazine. Get your students to find examples of each of the conjunctions that we’ve covered in the class.