Recognizing Coordinating Conjunctions

A **conjunction** connects words or groups of words

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| Coordinating Conjunctions |
| and | for | or | yet |
| but | nor | so |  |

Examples of conjunctions and the words or groups of words they connect:

Nouns: My *cousin* and his *wife* left yesterday for a trip to Washington, D.C.

Verbs: They *printed* out directions but *forgot* to bring them.

Prep Phr: Put the luggage *on the doorstep* or *in the garage*.

Sentences: *I wanted to go to the White House,* but *we decided to go to the Capitol first.*

**Exercise 1** – For each sentence, circle the coordinating conjunction and underline the words or groups of words connected by the conjunction.

Example: South Dakota is an exciting and interesting vacation spot.

1. Are you going to visit Mount Rushmore or the Black Hills?

2. At Mount Rushmore, the faces of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, and Roosevelt are carved out of a mountain.

3. Gutzon Borglum and his workers carved the monument.

4. Visitors hike near the monument but cannot climb on it.

5. The mountain is rugged, yet the carved faces look smooth.

6. Borglum began work in 1927 and finished in 1939.

7. His original plan called for the sculptures to be formed from the waist up, but that would have been very costly.

8. The stone was hard, so only the faces were sculpted.

9. The project was expensive but clearly worth it.

10. The sculpture was carved into Mt. Rushmore 152 meters, or approximately 500 feet, above the valley floor.