

The 18 Logical Relationships

Coordinate Relationships

Series (S): Each proposition makes its own independent contribution to a whole.

Conjunctions: and, moreover, likewise, neither, nor, καί, δέ.

Example: warning everyone *and* teaching everyone with all wisdom (Colossians 1:28)

Progression (P): Like series, but each proposition is a further step toward a climax.

Conjunctions: then, and, moreover, furthermore, καί, δέ.

Example: The earth produces by itself, first the blade, *then* the ear, *then* the full grain in the ear (Mark 4:28)

Alternative (A): Each proposition expresses a different possibility arising from a situation.

Conjunctions: or, but, while, on the other hand, δέ, ἢ, μέν.

Example: Are you the one who is to come, *or* shall we look for another? (Matthew 11:3)

Support by Distinct Statement

Ground (G): A statement and the argument or reason for that statement (supporting proposition follows)

Conjunctions: for, because, since, γάρ, ὅτι, ἐπεί, διότι.

Example: Blessed are the poor in spirit, *for* theirs is the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 5:3)

Inference (I): A statement and the argument or reason for that statement (supporting proposition precedes)

Conjunctions: therefore, accordingly, οὖν, διό, ὅπως.

Example: The end of all things is at hand; *therefore* be self-controlled and sober-minded (1 Peter 4:7)

Bilateral (BL): A proposition that supports two other propositions, one preceding and one following.

Conjunctions: for, because, therefore, so, γάρ, ὅτι, οὖν, διό.

Example: For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, *for* it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. (Romans 8:7-8)

Action-Result (Ac/Res): An action and a consequence or result which accompanies that action.

Conjunctions: so that, that, with the result that, ὥστε.

Example: there arose a great storm on the sea, *so that* the boat was being swamped by the waves (Matthew 8:24)

Action-Purpose (Ac/Pur): An action and its intended result.

Conjunctions: in order that, so that, that, lest, ἵνα, εἰς τὸ.

Example: I say this *in order that* no one may delude you with plausible arguments (Colossians 2:4)

Conditional (If/Th): Like Action-Result except that the existence of the action is only potential and the result is contingent upon that action.

Conjunctions: if...then, provided that, except, unless, εἰ, ἐάν, εἴτε, ἄρα.

Example: *if* there is harm, *then* you shall pay life for life (Exodus 21:23)

Temporal (T): A statement and the occasion when it is true or can occur.

Conjunctions: when, whenever, after, before, ὅταν, ὅτε, πρίν.

Example: And *when* you fast, do not look gloomy (Matthew 6:16)

Locative (L): A statement and the place where it is true or can occur.

Conjunctions: where, wherever, ὅπου.

Example: For *where* you go I will go (Ruth 1:16)

Subordinate Relationships

Support by Restatement

Action-Manner (Ac/Mn): An action and a statement indicating the way or manner that action is carried out. This relationship can also be used to indicate means.

Conjunctions: in that, by, participles.

Example: he did good *by giving* you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons (Acts 14:17)

Comparison (Cf): An action and a statement that clarifies that action by showing what it is like.

Conjunctions: even as, as...so, like, just as, ὡς, καθώς.

Example: Be imitators of me, *as* I am of Christ (1 Corinthians 11:1)

Negative-Positive (-/+): Two statements, one of which is denied so that the other is enforced. This is also the relationship implicit in contrasting statements.

Conjunctions: not...but, ἀλλά.

Example: do *not* be foolish, *but* understand what the will of the Lord is (Ephesians 5:17)

Idea-Explanation (Id/Exp): The relationship between an original statement and one clarifying its meaning. The clarifying proposition may expound on only one word of the associated arc or its entirety.

Conjunctions: that is, in other words, ὅτι, γάρ, ἵνα.

Example: Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin (Romans 4:7-8)

Question-Answer (Q/A): The statement of a question and the answer to that question.

Conjunctions: question mark.

Example: what does the Scripture say? Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness (Romans 4:3)

Support by Contrary Statement

Concessive (Csv): A main clause that stands despite a contrary statement.

Conjunctions: although, though, yet, nevertheless, but, however, δέ, πλὴν.

Example: I intend always to remind you of these qualities, *though* you know them (2 Peter 1:12)

Situation-Response (Sit/R): A situation and its surprising or counter-intuitive response.

Conjunctions: and.

Example: How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, *and* you were not willing! (Matthew 23:37)

Helping to spread a passion for the glory of God through the careful study of His Word.