

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)

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 (1Co 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, αλλά*.
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, ἴνα*.
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 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 (∴): 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, *ἔπου*.
Example: For *where* you go I will go (Ruth 1:16)

Support by Contrary Statement

Concessive (Csv): A main clause that stands despite a contrary statement.
Conjunctions: although, though, yet, *nevertheless*, but, however, *δέ, πλήν*.
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)

● The grey dot indicates the relationship's main point.

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