



But and For, Yet and Nor



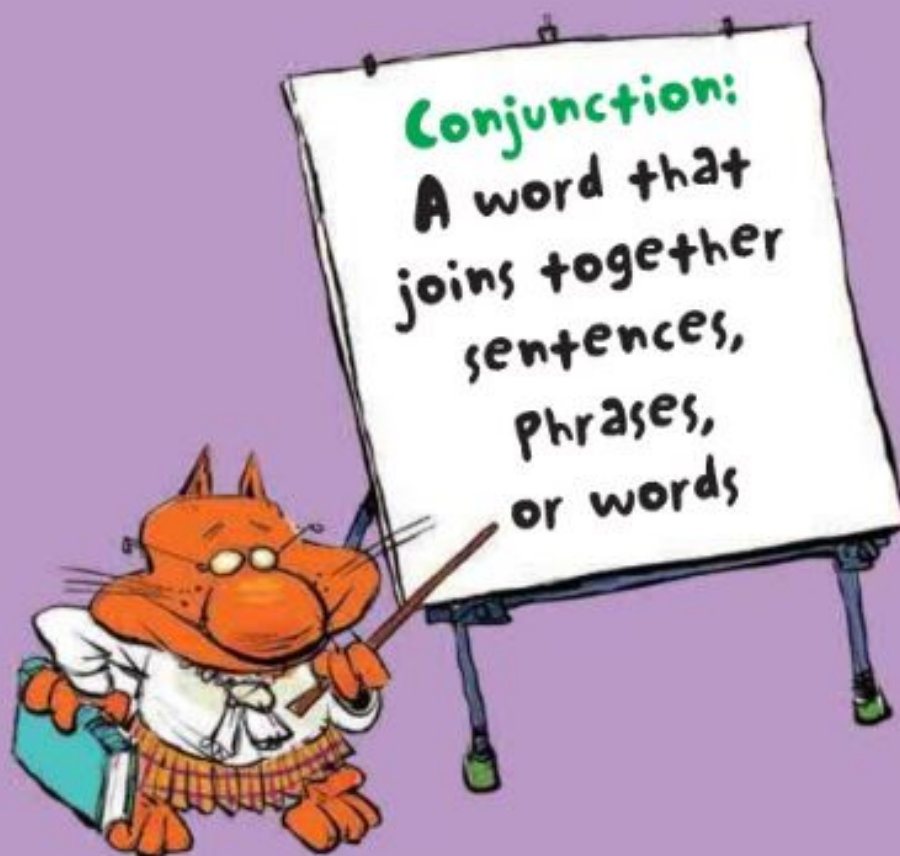
What Is a Conjunction?

by Brian P. Cleary

illustrated by Brian Gable



To Molly Hernan
—B.P.C.



All the conjunctions in this book that are given as examples are printed in **color**. A few additional conjunctions are not printed in color. For an extra challenge, see if you can spot them.

Conjunctions

are connecting words

like **but**

or **and**

or **or,**

yet



yet, until, unless, and as,



along with for and nor.

At times,
conjunctions build a bridge



from one phrase to another,
as in, "I picked some flowers



and gave them to my mother."

Other times,
conjunctions help
to link a pair of verbs,



as in,
"Has anybody seen

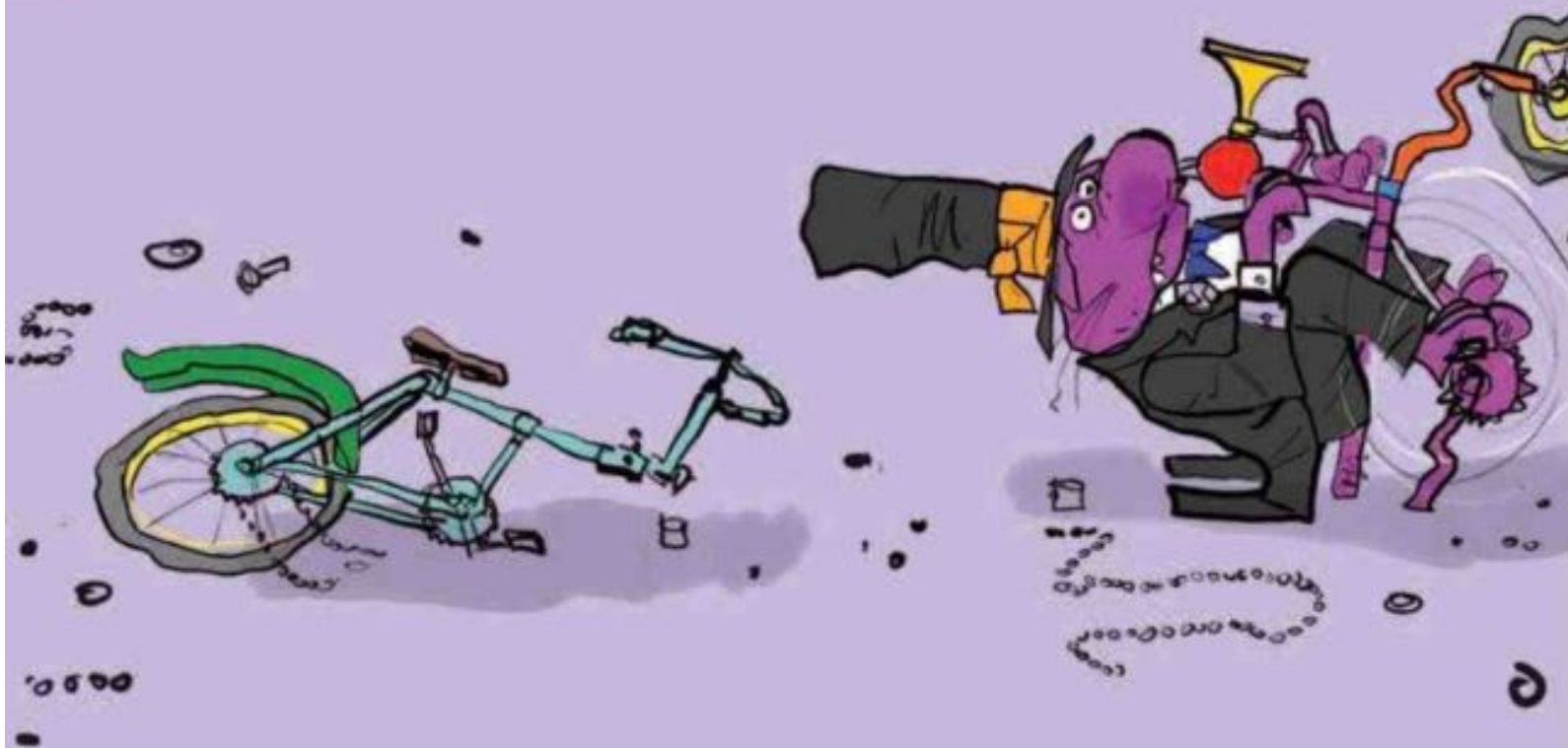


or smelled that dog of Herb's?"

Some will join two sentences,



combining them as one.



Like, "I could not be late to school/
So I began to run."

Or "When people meet him,



their faces all look sour,

because he can go
several days

without a bath
or shower."



Some think a conjunction



*shouldn't ever be the word
that's used to start a sentence.*

GRAMMAR CONVENTION

But I say that's absurd.



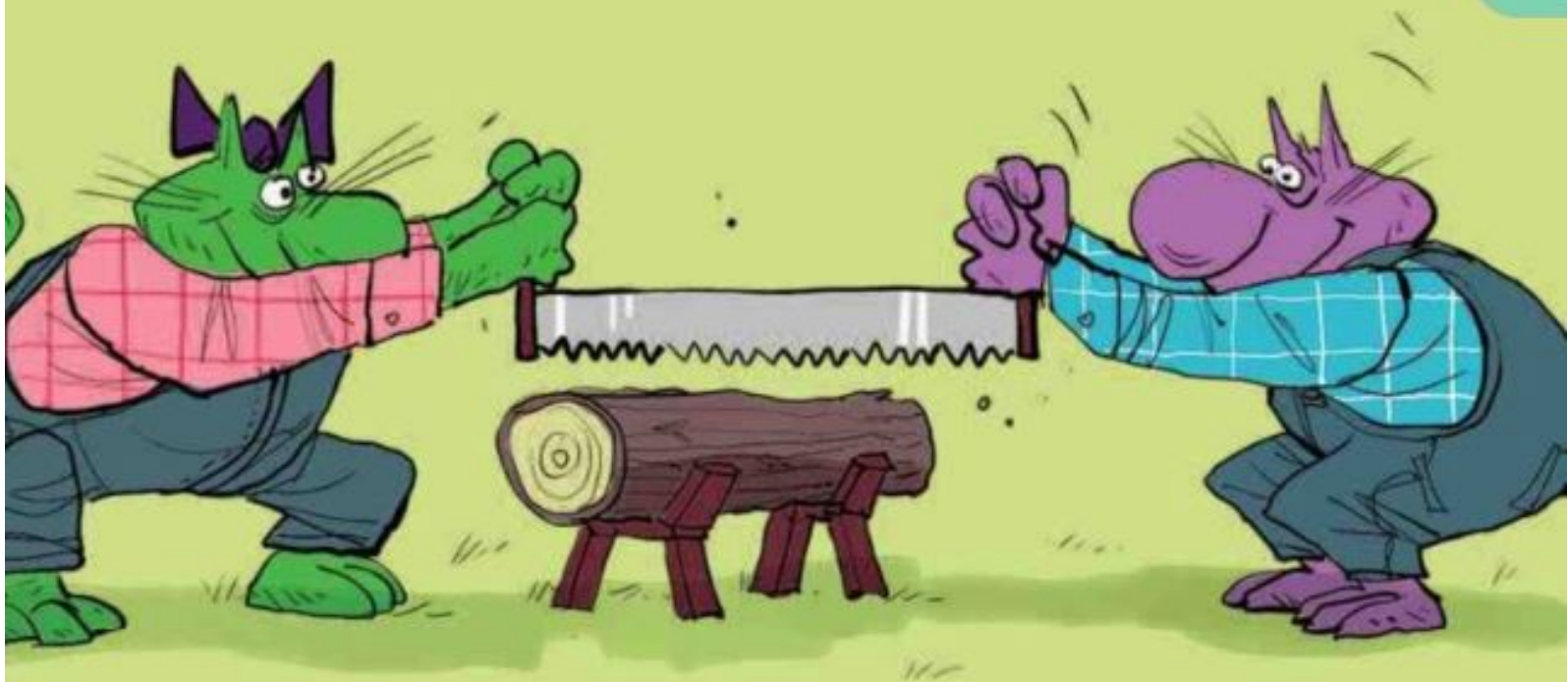
And why would I declare this?



so that everyone can see



that sometimes a conjunction
starts your sentence perfectly.



Some conjunctions
work in pairs,
like this one: **either/or**.



"We'll **either**
eat our pizza



on a plate



or off the floor."



Both and and can work that way,
as in this next example:

both my parrot
and my friend



would sure like one free sample.

Some have more to do with time,

like **after**
and **before**,



When and While,
until and Since,



to name a handful more.

"After playtime, we'll clean up."

"While I slept,
she'd holler."



See how these refer to "when"?

Like, "Since last
May, I'm taller."



Some conjunctions join



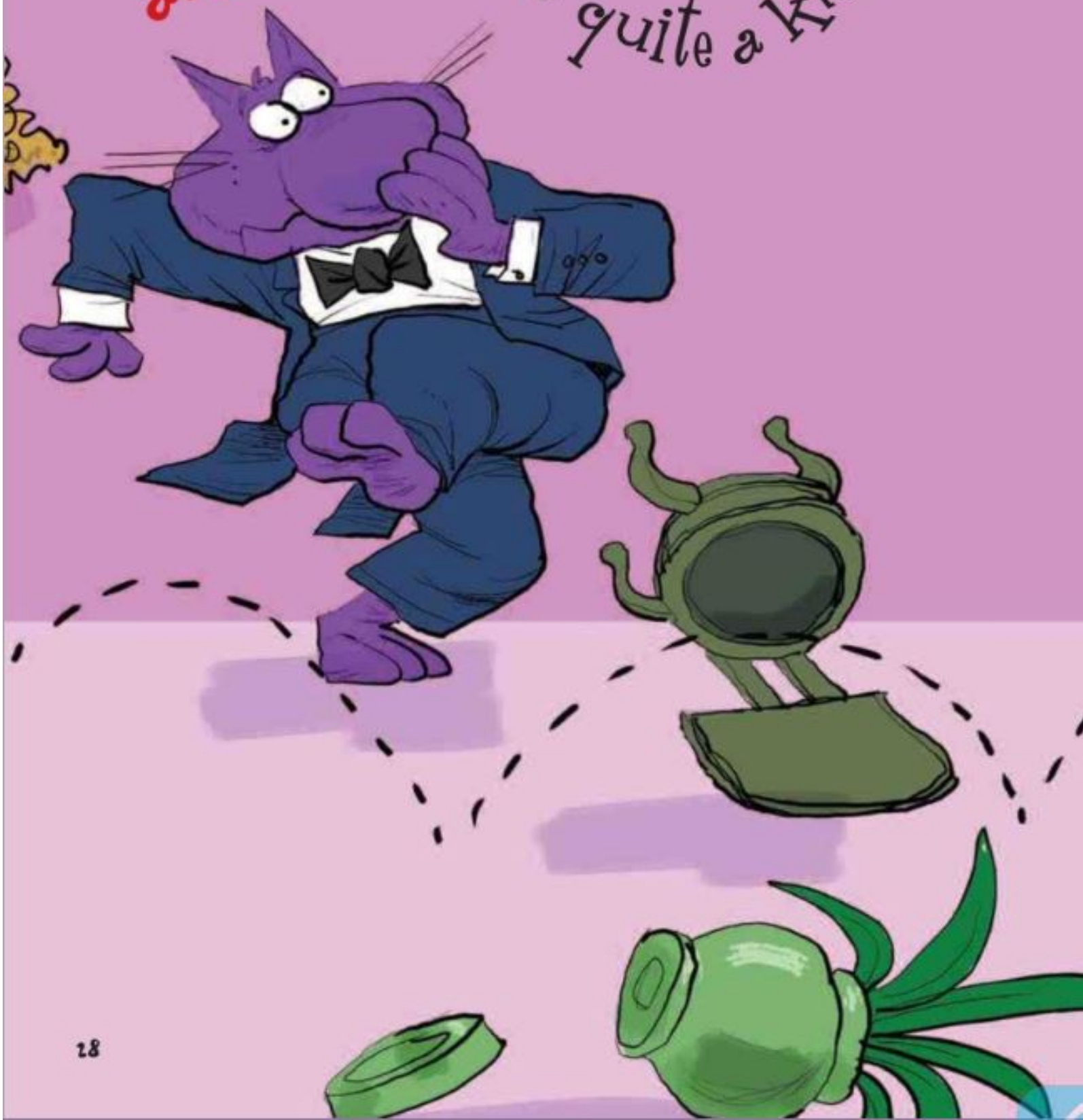
what doesn't seem
to go together.

As in, "My dad loves Tampa,



even though he hates the weather."

Or "Mom's a ballroom dancing champ
although she's quite a klutz."

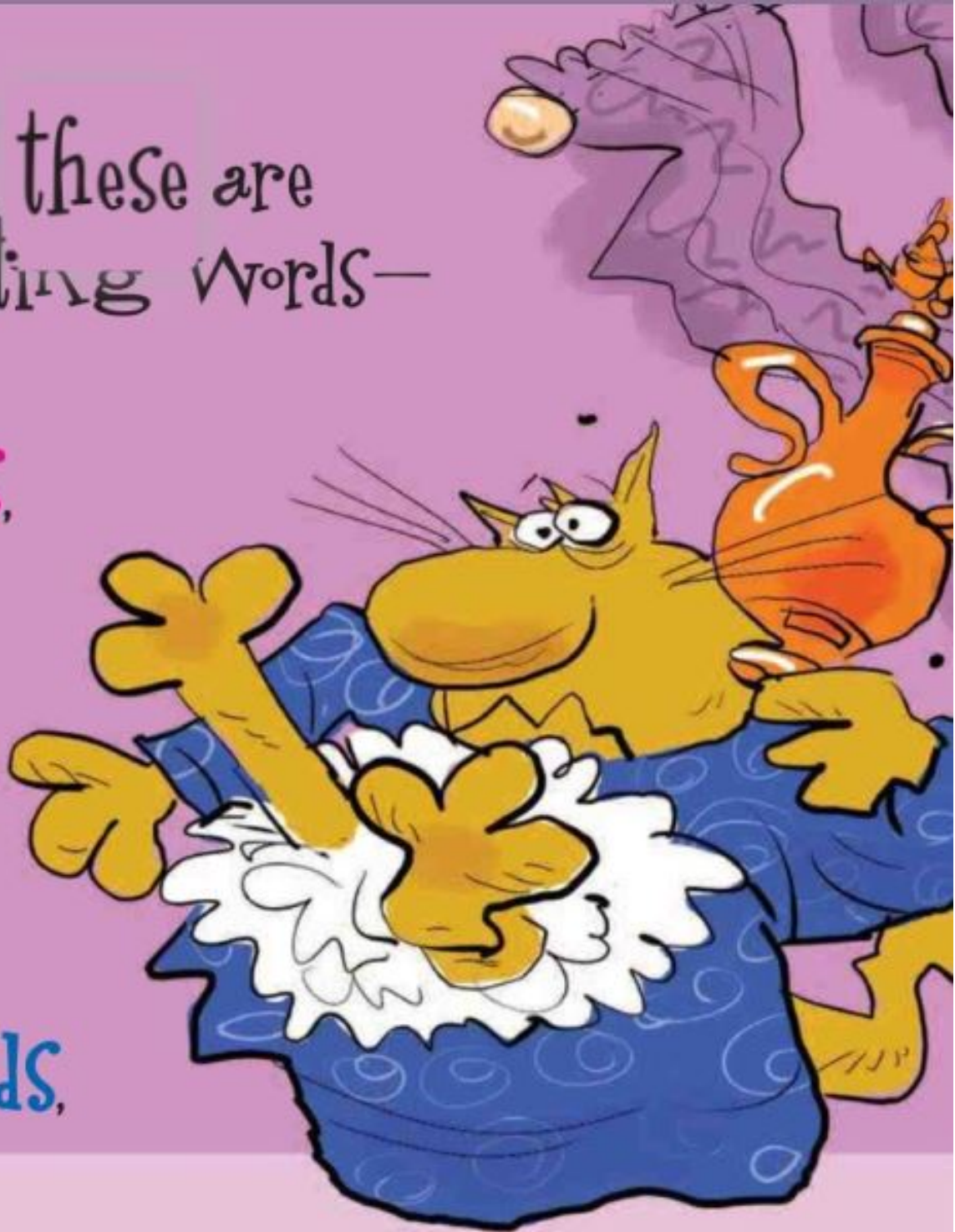


Yes, all these are
connecting words—

no ifs,

no ands,

no buts!



So what is a conjunction?



