

# Fitz's Comma Rule #7: *Commas with Conjunctive Adverbs*

## What is a Conjunctive Adverb?

- Conjunctive adverbs are a "bit" like conjunctions because they connect two independent clauses. The difference is that the conjunctive adverb shows "how" the two independent clauses are related.
- This is also a great chance to show off your semi-colon skills. Whenever you use a conjunctive adverb in a sentence, you should put a semi-colon before the conjunctive adverb and a comma after the conjunctive adverb. Just be sure there is a full sentence before the conjunctive adverb AND after!

## How to make a way cool impressive sentence:

- Independent clause + (semi-colon) + conjunctive adverb + (comma) +Independent clause.

## For Example:

1. English is fun; **however**, Fitz is boring.
2. "Always go to other people's funerals; **otherwise**, they won't go to yours." ~Yogi Berra
3. He was caught cheating on the test; **subsequently**, he was suspended from school for a week.

## Here's how to make an even cooler trice-colon sentence:

- Independent clause + (semi-colon) independent clause + semi-colon + conjunctive adverb + (comma) +Independent clause + coordinating conjunction [soyet and or norforbut] + comma + independent clause = a wham dammer of a sentence!

## For Example:

1. The rain fell down in sheets yesterday; it washed away streets and bridges, however, we did not let it dampen our spirits, but it did dampen our clothes.
2. You need to pay attention to these comma rules; you need to learn what makes sentences flow as a single thought, moreover, you have to practice what you learn, and sooner than later you will become a more effective, confident and fluent writer!

**A conjunctive adverb can also be a part of an adverbial phrase:**

**For Example:**

1. *I don't dislike you; on the contrary, I think you are a fascinating person.*
2. *I don't like skiing; on the other hand, I like winter.*

**NOTE: Use conjunctive adverbs sparingly. If you use them too often in a writing piece, your writing might sound "a bit" pretentious.**

**Here are some examples of conjunctive adverbs:**

- *also, anyhow, anyway, as a result, at last, at the same time, besides, certainly, consequently, earlier, eventually, finally, for example, for instance, further, furthermore, hence, however, in addition, in any case, incidentally, indeed, in fact, in short, instead, in the meantime, later, likewise, meanwhile, moreover, namely, nevertheless, next, now, on the contrary, on the other hand, otherwise, perhaps, similarly, so (as in soooo...) still, subsequently, that is, then, therefore...*

**There are often times when you use a conjunctive adverb to start a sentence or place one within a clause.**

- In these cases, do not use a semi-colon and comma. If the conjunctive adverb acts as the introductory word, put a comma after it.
- If it is within a clause, treat it as you would a non-essential element (which in a way it is!) and put a comma before and after the conjunctive adverb.

**For Example:**

1. **Nonetheless**, we still had a wonderful day.
2. That student, **however**, is an amazing scholar.
3. **Finally**, we are finished with seven of the top ten comma rules; **nevertheless**, we still have three more rules to go!

**I hope it all makes sense.**

**So now you have one more tool in your box of punctuation tricks and techniques.**

~Fitz