

Conjunctive Adverbs

Conjunctive adverbs can do a couple of interesting things, but for our sake, we're going to look at how they work in an independent clause. What **you** need to know is that conjunctive adverbs and sometimes conjoin (join together) two independent clauses. Naturally, they must be punctuated correctly. Here is a partial list of conjunctive adverbs. Learn them, live them, love them:

also	indeed	now	as a result
anyway	instead	otherwise	undoubtedly
besides	likewise	similarly	incidentally
certainly	meanwhile	still	finally
moreover	then	furthermore	namely
therefore	however	nevertheless	thus
next	as a result		

Here's an example of a conjunctive adverb joining two independent clauses:

The mannequins started to move towards me; **however**, I was able to outrun them.

See how the "however" acts as a joining word? Notice that the semicolon comes before the "however." Notice also, that the semicolon divides two independent clauses. You would not put a semicolon next to the conjunctive adverb if it didn't start an independent clause because . . . you **NEED** an independent clause on either side of a semicolon:

WRONG: The mannequins started to move towards me; I was; **however**, able to outrun them.

One cool element of conjunctive adverbs is that they can be moved to different positions in a clause:

The cider tasted bitter; **however**, each of us drank a tall glass of it.

The cider tasted bitter; each of us, **however**, drank a tall glass of it.

The cider tasted bitter. Each of us drank a tall glass of it, **however**.

When a conjunctive adverb is placed at the beginning of the second independent clause, these clauses must be separated by a semicolon or period (not just a comma) **and followed by a comma**. If the conjunctive adverb is placed in the middle of an independent clause, it's usually surrounded by a comma hug. If it's at the end, it usually has a comma before it.

Example:

We saw many children playing in the marsh; **however**, this was not a safe place to play.

We saw many children playing in the marsh; this was not, **however**, a safe place to play.

We saw many children playing in the marsh; this was not a safe place to play, **however**.

1. English is fun. Indeed, it is my favorite class.
 2. English is fun; indeed, it is my favorite class.
 3. English is fun, indeed, it is my favorite class.
 4. English is fun, indeed it is my favorite class.
 5. English is fun; indeed it is my favorite class.
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1. Larry is very slender. He does, however, eat a lot.
 2. Larry is very slender, however, he does eat a lot.
 3. Larry is very slender, however he does eat a lot.
 4. Larry is very slender; however, he does eat a lot.
 5. Larry is very slender; he does; however, eat a lot.
 6. Larry is very slender; however he does eat a lot.