

**although / though / even though**

*Although, though* and *even though* are used to express contrast. *Even though* is more emphatic than *although* and *though*. *Though* is more informal than *although* and *even though*.

Structure	Example
<i>Although / Though / Even though</i> + subject + verb, subject + verb	<b>Although / Though / Even though</b> I wore a hat, I got sunburn.
subject + verb, <i>although / though / even though</i> + subject + verb	I got sunburn, <b>although / though / even though</b> I wore a hat.

**Watch out!**

- *Though* can also come at the end of a sentence.  
✓ I wore a hat. I got sunburn, *though*.

**in spite of / despite**

*In spite of* and *despite* are used to express contrast. They mean exactly the same thing and take the same grammatical structures:

Structure	Example
<i>in spite of / despite</i> + -ing form, subject + verb	<b>In spite of / Despite</b> wearing a hat, I got sunburn.
<i>in spite of / despite</i> + <i>the fact (that)</i> + subject + verb, subject + verb	<b>In spite of / Despite</b> the fact (that) I wore a hat, I got sunburn.
<i>in spite of / despite</i> + noun, subject + verb	<b>In spite of / Despite</b> my hat, I got sunburn.

**Watch out!**

- We can also put *in spite of / despite* in the middle of the sentence.  
✓ I got sunburn **in spite of / despite** wearing a hat.
- We can also use the perfect -ing form to show that the action happened before the result.  
✓ I got sunburn **in spite of / despite** having worn a hat.
- With *in spite of / despite* + -ing form, the subject of the main verb must also carry out the action of the -ing verb.  
X ~~My sunburn was terrible **in spite of / despite** wearing a hat. (= My sunburn wore a hat!)~~

**however / nevertheless**

*However* and *nevertheless* are used to express contrast. *However* is formal. *Nevertheless* is even more formal.

The fashion show was expensive to put on. **However / Nevertheless**, it did make a profit.

The fashion show was expensive to put on. It did make a profit, **however / nevertheless**.

The fashion show was expensive to put on. It did, **however / nevertheless**, make a profit.

**while / whereas**

*While* and *whereas* are used to contrast two different facts or ideas.

Structure	Example
<i>while / whereas</i> + subject + verb, subject + verb	<b>While / Whereas</b> jeans are worn by both men and women, blouses are worn only by women.
subject + verb, <i>while / whereas</i> + subject + verb	Blouses are worn only by women, <b>while / whereas</b> jeans are worn by both men and women.

**F** Complete using *although*, *despite*, *however* or *while*.

- 1 ..... the storm, over ten thousand people took part in the marathon.
- 2 ..... I wrote myself a note to remind me, I still forgot to call George tonight.
- 3 Most Egyptologists believe that the Sphinx is about 4000 years old. Some geologists, ..... , argue that it must be at least 14,000 years old.
- 4 ..... having taken two aspirin, I had such a bad headache that I had to go home.
- 5 I've never seen a UFO. .... , that doesn't mean that I don't believe in them.
- 6 There are still two million people unemployed ..... the fact that we're in the middle of an economic boom.
- 7 ..... no European country carries out capital punishment, it is widely used throughout the United States.
- 8 *Technology has benefited humankind* enormously. There are drawbacks with our reliance on technology, .....
- 9 I couldn't find my keys ..... searching for them everywhere.

**G** Complete each second sentence using the word given, so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Write between two and five words in each gap.

- 1 Although he was exhausted, Mike kept on climbing. **fact**  
In ..... he was exhausted, Mike kept on climbing.
- 2 Sally had been sure she would win the music competition. She came third, however. **been**  
Despite ..... would win the music competition, Sally came third.
- 3 Doug wasn't shortlisted for the job even though he had a great CV. **spite**  
Doug wasn't shortlisted for the job ..... a great CV.
- 4 Planes can still take off and land but ferries have been cancelled. **whereas**  
Ferries have been cancelled, ..... able to take off and land.
- 5 Despite having got a good degree, Sandra couldn't find a well-paid job. **even**  
Sandra couldn't find a well-paid job ..... a good degree.
- 6 Even though he'd been robbed twice, Red still enjoyed living in the city. **having**  
Red still enjoyed living in the city ..... twice.
- 7 It's a great film despite the plot being a little complicated. **though**  
It's a great film, ..... a little complicated.
- 8 Despite looking everywhere, the kids failed to find the tennis ball. **although**  
The kids failed to find the tennis ball ..... everywhere.
- 9 Pat really enjoyed the match even though she was beaten. **of**  
In ..... , Pat really enjoyed the match.
- 10 Despite their thorough investigation of the case, the police didn't manage to catch the culprit. **investigated**  
Despite ..... , the police didn't manage to catch the culprit.

**F** Complete using *although, despite, however* or *while*.

- 1 ..... **Despite** ..... the storm, over ten thousand people took part in the marathon.
- 2 ..... **Although** ..... I wrote myself a note to remind me, I still forgot to call George tonight.
- 3 Most Egyptologists believe that the Sphinx is about 4000 years old. Some geologists, ..... **however** ..... , argue that it must be at least 14,000 years old.
- 4 ..... **Despite** ..... having taken two aspirin, I had such a bad headache that I had to go home.
- 5 I've never seen a UFO. ..... **However** ..... , that doesn't mean that I don't believe in them.
- 6 There are still two million people unemployed ..... **despite** ..... the fact that we're in the middle of an economic boom.
- 7 ..... **Although** ..... no European country carries out capital punishment, it is widely used throughout the United States.
- 8 Technology has benefited humankind enormously. There are drawbacks with our reliance on technology, ..... **however** .....
- 9 I couldn't find my keys ..... **despite** ..... searching for them everywhere.

**G** Complete each second sentence using the word given, so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Write between two and five words in each gap.

- 1 Although he was exhausted, Mike kept on climbing. **fact**  
In ..... **spite of the fact (that)** ..... he was exhausted, Mike kept on climbing.
- 2 Sally had been sure she would win the music competition. She came third, however. **been**  
Despite ..... **having been sure (that) she** ..... would win the music competition, Sally came third.
- 3 Doug wasn't shortlisted for the job even though he had a great CV. **spite**  
Doug wasn't shortlisted for the job ..... **in spite of (his) having** ..... a great CV.
- 4 Planes can still take off and land but ferries have been cancelled. **whereas**  
Ferries have been cancelled, ..... **whereas planes are still** ..... able to take off and land.
- 5 Despite having got a good degree, Sandra couldn't find a well-paid job. **even**  
Sandra couldn't find a well-paid job ..... **even though she had got** ..... a good degree.
- 6 Even though he'd been robbed twice, Red still enjoyed living in the city. **having**  
Red still enjoyed living in the city ..... **despite having been robbed** ..... twice.
- 7 It's a great film despite the plot being a little complicated. **though**  
It's a great film, ..... **(even) though the plot is** ..... a little complicated.
- 8 Despite looking everywhere, the kids failed to find the tennis ball. **although**  
The kids failed to find the tennis ball ..... **although they (had) looked** ..... everywhere.
- 9 Pat really enjoyed the match even though she was beaten. **of**  
In ..... **spite of being beaten** ..... , Pat really enjoyed the match.
- 10 Despite their thorough investigation of the case, the police didn't manage to catch the culprit. **investigated**  
Despite ..... **having investigated the case thoroughly** ..... , the police didn't manage to catch the culprit.