

KEY WORD SENTENCE TRANSFORMATIONS AND STRATEGY

Look at the example question below:

He tried to keep running although he felt tired.

SPITE

He tried to keep running _____ tired.

STEP ONE: Cross out words that are the same.

~~He tried to keep running~~ although he felt ~~tired~~.

SPITE

He tried to keep running _____ tired.

STEP TWO: Focus on the remaining words and try to find the grammar or vocabulary rule.

~~He tried to keep running~~ although he felt ~~tired~~.

SPITE

He tried to keep running _____ tired.

Focus on **although he felt**.

Although is a linking word of contrast. This is the structure that you should have identified. Next, start to think about other linking words and expressions of contrast while keeping in mind that you need to use the word **SPITE**.

STEP THREE: Choose your answer between 2 and 5 words.

~~He tried to keep running~~ although he felt ~~tired~~.

SPITE

He tried to keep running _____ tired.

In spite of and **despite** are both linking words/expressions of contrast.

Remembering that you have to use the **EXACT KEY WORD**, you should have decided not to use **despite**. Now, you should remember that after **in spite of** you need a **verb + ing form of the verb**. So, you need to look at the original sentence and identify the verb "**felt**." Change the subject + verb in the original sentence to a **verb + ing form** to fit the second sentence.

Your answer should now be **IN SPITE OF FEELING**.

STEP FOUR: Check your answer.

Did you use the key word?

Do you have the correct word count?

Did you write your answer **CLEARLY**? (It is not mandatory, but writing in **PRINT CAPITAL LETTERS** can help)

He tried to keep running although he felt tired.

SPITE

He tried to keep running IN SPITE OF FEELING tired.

COMMON MISTAKES ON KEY WORD SENTENCE TRANSFORMATIONS

- **Changing the key word** – you **MUST** use the exact word
- **Using too many words** – maximum of 5 words; contractions count as 2 words
- **Spending too much time** – if you don't know the answer, take a guess and continue with the next question
- **Pronoun gender and agreement** Sometimes you will need to use "her / his / she / he" etc. in your answer – make sure it matches the gender in the first sentence
- **Subject-verb agreement** – make sure your subject and verb match. For example, "she is singing" not "she are singing"
- **Writing sentences that are too different** (words like some, really, etc. that appear in the first sentence). Make sure these are expressed in the second sentence as well.
- **Forgetting to include important information from the 1st sentence in the 2nd sentence.**