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English II (Advanced English)
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Contrast Words

Hello, welcome. Today, we will look at Contrast Words. So, today's module is on contrast words; what are contrast words? Big, small, tall, short, these are all contrast words or posing in ideas. It need not be just we mere opposites, like the examples that I have just mentioned. Big, small or tall, short, strong, weak. But in the context of a sentence when we use words like, however, even though, despite, in spite of, at some point ideas come in opposition, and that is when we use contrast words. So, there are a handful of contrast words. Let us check a few of them in today's module.

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CONTRAST WORDS

- I invited Vaiga to the party. She didn't come. — *primary sentence*
- I invited Vaiga to the party **but** she didn't come. (Result is in opposition to the expectation).
- But is the simplest contrast word.
- **Although** I invited Vaiga to the party, she didnt come. *← expectation + result*
- Vaiga didn't come to the party **although** I invited her. *← result + sentence*
- (Result comes first and the expectation comes next. This adds focus to the expectation. Both means the same).
- Though is the shortened form of although. Informal – Use of it in speech more than writing
- **Though** I invited Vaiga to the party, she didnt come.
- Vaiga didn't come to the party **though** I invited her.



Now, I want to explain all of this using a few example sentences. So, let us take this first sentence to understand the use of 'but' here and then, we will replace the word 'but' with other contrast words and see if the sentence makes sense. So, the first example is, I invited Vaiga to the party, she did not come. So, this is the context here that I have invited, Vaiga to a party, it is my birthday, I have invited her for my birthday party, and she has not come.

So, a different way of putting it is, instead of saying I invited Vaiga to the party, she did not come. I could also say I invited Vaiga to the party, but she did not come. So, look at the

sentence. When I say something like I invited Vaiga to the party, but she did not come. I am talking about the result. What is the result here, that she did not come, and this result is in opposition to the expectation that I had, what is the expectation I have had?

The expectation I had when I was inviting Vaiga was that she would turn up for my birthday party. But she has not, and therefore, the sentence I invited Vaiga to the party, but she has not come. So, do you see that with this sentence, you see that the result is in opposition to the expectation and therefore 'but' can be termed as a contrast word and 'but' is the simplest contrast word. There are few other contrast words that we generally, that we commonly use in our day to day conversations. 'But' is the simplest among the contrast words; it is the most simple among all the contrast words.

Now comes the word 'although'; let us check the use. Although I invited Vaiga to the party, she did not come. Now, check the following sentence. Vaiga did not come to the party, although I invited her. Now what is the difference between these two sentences? So, the first thing that I want you to note is that although can be used interchangeably, although can be used at the beginning of the sentence and although can be used in the middle of the sentence. So, this is the primary sentence.

I invited Vaiga to the party. She did not come. Now, how do I use although, now how do I use although in this particular sentence. You could use it in two ways, although I invited Vaiga to the party, she did not come or you could also say Vaiga did not come to the party, although I invited her. What is the difference between these two sentences? There should be some difference.

So, what comes after 'although' has more emphasis. Here in the first if you see, the expectation comes first, followed by the result. So in this sentence, expectation comes first and then comes the result. Whereas in this sentence, it is the opposite, or it is vice versa, which is the result comes first and then comes the sentence.

Now, when the result comes first, and expectation comes next, which is after although when the expectation comes, it adds focus to the expectation though both mean the same. Though meaning why is both these sentences are same in this particular sentence or what follows although has an additional focus.

So, here expectation is additionally focused. Now, what about the word 'though'. 'though' is a shortened form of 'although'. Now, if we have although then why use though? There is a good

reason for that. The reason behind it is although is mostly used in formal locations, whereas, though is an informal version of although.

So, we use though more often in speech than in writing. Like although it is possible to use though, in the beginning and in the middle of the sentence. That is, though I invited Vaiga to the party, she did not come. Also, Vaiga did not come to the party, though I invited her; I hope I made that clear.

So, talking about although and though, although is used in former locations, more in writing than in speech. I mean, if you want to use one of them in writing, then I would suggest you to go for although than though and though is a shortened form of although, because of which we use, though more in speech than in writing. Both although and though can be used in the beginning of the sentence and in the middle of the sentence like the examples that we see here.

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CONTRAST WORDS

- Even though is a more stronger form of although. (expresses disappointment)
- **Even though** I invited Vaiga to the party, she didn't come.
- Vaiga didn't come to the party **even though** I invited her. (Stronger form of the earlier sentence).
- The word 'however' has the same meaning as 'but'.
- I invited Vaiga to the party **but** she didn't come.
- I invited Vaiga to the party **however** she did not come.
- However is a formal word. In spoken language we don't use the word "however".



CONTRAST WORDS

- Even though - stronger form of although. (expresses disappointment)
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- Vaiga didn't come to the party **even though** I invited her. (Stronger form of the earlier sentence). *expectation*
- The word 'however' has the same meaning as 'but'.
- I invited Vaiga to the party **but** she didn't come.
- I invited Vaiga to the party **however** she did not come. *didn't → [contraction]*
- However is a formal word. In spoken language we don't use the word "however".



CONTRAST WORDS

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Now, let us look at the word 'even though'. So even though is a stronger form of although and so with that stronger form what does it convey? While it clearly or evidently expresses disappointment, particularly in the context of the sentence. So, taking the primary sentence, we are using the same primary sentence that is I invited Vaiga to the party, she did not come. That is a primary sentence.

How do we use even though, how do we connect these two sentences with even though, you could say, even though I invited Vaiga to the party, she did not come, or you could also say, Vaiga did not come to the party, even though I invited her. Which among these two sentences explicitly reveals disappointment.

Well, the answer is the second sentence because the expectation, here the expectation follows the word even though that is a contrast word. Therefore, this sentence is more stronger than the previous sentence that you see on the screen. So here, the result is on focus, whereas here, the expectation is on focus. Therefore, we could say this indicates disappointment. The focus here is on how the person has not met my expectation.

So, I hope I made that point clear. If you have any doubts regarding these, please put up your queries in the discussion forum, and we will answer all your queries. Now let us get to the word 'however'. The word 'however' has the same meaning as but. So, going back to the same primary sentence that we had, I invited Vaiga to the party, she did not come. We connected it with 'but' which is the simplest contrast word and I have just now said that the word 'however' has the same meaning as 'but' so therefore, 'however' can replace 'but' and we could say something like I invited Vaiga to the party, however, she did not come.

Now, what I want you to notice is I have not used didn't that is contraction. I have discussed in detail in many previous videos about contraction. If you are not sure about contraction, if you are not sure about this concept, then I would urge you to go back and refer to the previous videos or I would ask you to surf the internet and understand the concept of contraction. So, I have not used contraction here in this particular sentence, whereas I have used contraction, which is didn't with the previous sentence, wherein I have used, but. Can you guess the reason?

Well, the reason is, however, is a formal word. So, we use, however, more in writing than in speech; it is always better to use the word but in speech and however in writing. Another important point that you should keep in mind is that it is better to avoid contractions in formal writing. I said in formal writing. So, better avoid contractions in formal writing. So, when I say that however is a formal word, then it is better that you do not use contraction in a formal sentence. I hope I made that clear.

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DESPITE AND INSPITE OF

- Both mean the same. You can use them interchangeably.
- [Reva decided to buy an expensive car **even though** her mother objected to it.] → /sentence/
- Reva decided to buy an expensive car **despite** her mother's objections.
- Reva decided to buy an expensive car **in spite of** her mother's objections.
- Despite of – Wrong usage.



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VP - verb phrase
 NP - noun phrase
 Despite of - X



Now, coming to the words, despite and in spite of. Well both mean the same. You can use them interchangeably. Like I have shown in the example here. Reva decided to, so this is the primary sentence. My primary sentence is a sentence where I have used the contrast word even though. So here, let us check the usage of despite and in spite of Reva decided to buy an expensive car, even though her mother objected to it.

So, this is a primary sentence. Now, how do I use despite in the sentence? How do I rephrase the sentence and use despite? That is a question, I could say Reva decided to buy an expensive car, despite her mother's objection, and I have already told you that both despite

and in spite of mean same, mean the same, so they can be used interchangeably which means, so you would say Reva decided to buy an expensive car in spite of her mother's objection.

Now, let us compare these sentences with the sentences that were used previously with words like though and although or, for example, let us compare and contrast it with this particular sentence even though, leave although and though. Let us compare and contrast the sentence structures of these two sentences with that of the sentence which has even though. What do you see is the reference; one you see is, what follows after despite and in spite of is phrases and what of phrases what can follow after despite and in spite of is either a verb phrase or a noun phrase.

Whereas, what follows after even though or although or the contrast words that we have seen previously in the previous slides are independent sentences, her mother objected to it, it can stand on its own right. Whereas they are phrases and therefore cannot stand on its own her mother's objections, it is not a complete sentence by itself.

I want you to understand that the structure of sentences change drastically, even when we use words that belong to the same category, such as, in other words that we have discussed so far, fall under the category of contrast words, despite, in spite of, although, even though, however, but, all of these fall under the category of contrast words, but sentence structure varies.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to this, this particular phrase that is 'despite of' and that is absolutely wrong. You do not say despite of, you either say in spite of or you could, you either use in spite of, or despite but not, despite of. So, that was a very brief session on contrast words. I will meet you with a different topic on a different day. Until then, stay safe. Take care, bye.