**CONNECTORS OF CONTRAST**

**But and although**

We use *but* to show a simple difference between two pieces of information:

*The weather was cold but it didn't rain, The latest Batman movie is exciting but very violent.*

*The cafe was crowded but we found a table.*

We can also use **although**.

-Although the cafe was crowded, we found a table.

- Although Nick has a car, he doesn't often drive it.

The clause with although can come at the end.

-We found a table although the cafe was crowded.

-I enjoyed my holiday although it was too rainy.

**Though and even though**

Though is informal. It means the same as although.

-Though / Although I liked the sweater, I decided not to buy it.

In spoken and informal English we often use *though* at the end of a sentence to express a difference:

-He told everybody he had found a job. It was not true, though.

-I liked the sweater. I decided not to buy it, though.

*-We had a great holiday. It rained most of the time,though!*

Even though is stronger, more emphatic than although.

-He’s hopeless at tennis even though he plays every week.

-Even though you dislike Jessica, you should try to be nice to her.

We don't use a noun phrase after ‘although,even though.though’.

**In spite of and despite**

We use in spite of / despite before a noun, pronoun,a noun clause or before the ing-form of a verb.

-I managed to attend the meeting on time in spite of / despite the traffic jam.

-Mark went on working in spite of / despite feeling unwell.

-She has lots of problems. In spite of / Despite this, she always looks cheerful.

-Despite / In spite of what you said to me yesterday, I still love you.

If we want to include a subject and verb after ***despite* or in spite of***,* we add *the fact that*

*Despite its high price, so many people want to buy this phone.*

*Despite the fact that / In spite of the fact that this phone is expensive, so many people want to buy it.*

**However,Nevertheless**

In more formal English we can use *‘however or nevertheless’* to emphasise a difference.

We usually put the two pieces of information in separate sentences and use ‘*However* or *Nevertheless* (+ comma)’ to introduce the second sentence.

*Credit cards are very useful for travellers. However, the interest rates can be very high.*

*Egypt has very little rainfall. Nevertheless, farmers grow many crops using water from the River Nile.*

However can come at the beginning, in the middle or at the end of a sentence.

-It was a terrible illness. However, doctors have found a cure for it.

-It’s a very small school. The teaching, however, is excellent.

-This restaurant is great. It’s very expensive, however.

**Whereas / While**

Whereas and while are often used in formal English. After them, a clause must be used. This clause can come before or after the main clause.

-Whereas / While the journey took four hours in the past, now it takes just one hour.

-The north of the country is cold and wet, whereas / while the South is warm and dry.

-Whereas / While most new PCs have several USB slots, older ones often only had one.