

Connecting contradictory ideas: even though, however, on the other hand

Use even though to connect contradictory ideas in a sentence. (A comma is optional before even though when it comes at the end of the sentence.)

Bee Flowers is the most popular shop in town even though it's quite expensive.

You can bargain for low prices at Marty's, even though the service isn't very friendly.

Always use a comma if the clause that begins with even though comes first.

Even though it's quite expensive, Bee Flowers is the most popular shop in town.

Even though the service isn't very friendly, you can bargain for low prices at Marty's.

Use however or on the other hand at the beginning of a sentence to connect contradictory ideas from one sentence to another. Use a comma.

You can bargain for low prices at Marty's. However, the service isn't very friendly.

Bee Flowers is quite expensive. On the other hand, it's the most popular shop in town.

Be careful! Don't use however or on the other hand to combine clauses in a sentence.

Don't write: You can bargain for low prices at Marty's, ~~however the service isn't very friendly~~.

A On a separate sheet of paper, combine each pair of sentences into one sentence, using even though to begin each one.

- 1 You can find some good deals at the Savoy Hotel. Their rooms are the most expensive in town.
- 2 You can bargain for really low prices at the Old Market. It isn't the prettiest place to shop.
- 3 The Philcov X30 is easy to use and not too expensive. It isn't the most popular camera.
- 4 The prices of smart phones are getting lower every year. They can still be very expensive.
- 5 The Samson camcorder is the most professional camera you can buy. It isn't the lightest.

B Now rewrite the sentences, using however or on the other hand.

C **Guidance for the Writing Exercise (on page 120)** Write at least six sentences about places to shop in your town or city. Use even though, however, and on the other hand. Use your sentences to help you write your guide.