**Lesson 1 : Expressing Concession and Contrast**

**Rule:** In order to express opposing ideas, you need some very specific linking words.

They are mostly known as coordinating conjunctions, subordinating connectors or simply

Connectives. Here are some of them:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Connectors** | **Examples** |
| but | This mobile phone is good, **but** it is very expensive. |
| yet | I'm fond of math, **yet** I can't learn it. |
| still | I attended the lecture many times, **still** I cannot assimilate it. |
| however | He is very rich**; however,** he drives an old car. |
| nevertheless | She explained it all**, nevertheless,** nobody seemed to understand anything |
| nonetheless | Someone had to prepare dinner**, nonetheless,** everyone pretended to be busy |
| although | **Although** they have invited her to the part, she didn’t come. |
| even though | He insisted to go abroad **even though** he didn't have a passport. |
| despite | **Despite** the bad weather, the kids are still playing football. |
| In spite of | **In spite of** *sickness*, I never stop working. |
| even if | He went out **even if** the doctor advised him to stay in bed. |
| whereas/ while | The boys went out **whereas / while** they have to do their homework. |
| otherwise | You must prepare well for the interview**; otherwise,** they won't recruit you. |
| Regardless of | Every one of us should go to school **regardless of** age or social scale. |

**Note:**

When expressing concession with the following connectors, the students must be careful :

**1)**

-**Despite** **+ Noun** = **Despite/** **In spite of / regardless** **of** the rain, we had great time.

-**In spite of, regardless of** **+ Gerund** =**Despite/ In spite of / regardless of** having a lot of money, he is not a happy man.

**Information: A gerund:** is a noun made from a verb by adding **"-ing."** The gerund form of the verb "read" is "reading." You can use a **gerund** as the subject, the complement, or the object of a sentence.

Examples: Reading helps you learn English.

**2)**

**In spite the fact that / Despite the fact that + (Subject+ Verb+ the rest of the sentence).**

Example: **(In spite/ despite) the fact that** he had the necessary qualifications, he didn’t get a good job.

**Activity:**

**Rewrite the following sentences as indicated:**

1. Although he is poor, she accepted to marry him.

**Despite** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Even if he is rich, he never helps the poor.

**Despite** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Jack is crazy; nevertheless, all that he says is wise.

**In spite of** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. The boy is audacious; however, he couldn't save the drowning dog.

**Despite** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. The paragraph is very long, yet it remains coherent.

**In spite of** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Although Steven was disabled. He overcame all the obstacles.

**Despite** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_