

# 13c

## linking words and phrases

Here is a simple way of linking clauses by expressing contrast:

*Jack works very hard **but** he doesn't have a lot of money.*

- We can express the same idea using other conjunctions such as:

***Although** Jack works very hard, he doesn't have a lot of money.*

***Though** Jack works very hard, he doesn't have a lot of money.*

***In spite of/Despite** working hard, Jack doesn't have a lot of money.*

*Jack works hard, **yet** he doesn't have a lot of money.*

*Jack works hard. **Nevertheless**, he doesn't have a lot of money.*

*Jack works hard; **however**, he doesn't have a lot of money.*

***On the one hand**, Jack works hard; **on the other**, he doesn't have a lot of money.*

***Whereas** Jack works very hard, he doesn't have a lot of money.*

***While** Jack works very hard, he doesn't have a lot of money.*

Here is a summary of the main linking words we can use when making contrasts:

linking word	followed by	example	rest of sentence
<i>although/(even) though</i>	+ clause + comma	<i>(Even) <b>though</b> she is successful,</i>	<i>she is so modest.</i>
<i>in spite of/despite</i>	+ noun	<i><b>In spite of/Despite</b> her success,</i>	<i>she is so modest.</i>
<i>in spite of/despite</i>	+ -ing	<i><b>In spite of/Despite being</b> successful,</i>	<i>she is so modest.</i>
<i>in spite of/despite</i>	+ <b>the fact that</b> + clause + comma	<i><b>In spite of/Despite the fact that</b> she is successful,</i>	<i>she is so modest.</i>
<i>nevertheless/however</i>	+ comma + clause	<i>She is very successful. <b>Nevertheless/However</b>,</i>	<i>she is so modest.</i>
<i>whereas/while</i>	+ clause	<i>She is very successful, <b>whereas/while</b></i>	<i>others are not.</i>

- *Even though* is more emphatic than *although* or *though*. We use it to emphasise the surprising contrast of two facts:

*I can still remember that day, **even though** it was a long time ago.*

- We can reverse the order of the two clauses: ***Even though** it was a long time ago, I can still remember that day.*

- We use *however* meaning 'in spite of this fact'. *Nevertheless* is also possible but is considered more formal:

*What you said was true. **However/Nevertheless**, it was a little unkind.*

- We can also use *however* when we add information that seems surprising or contrasts with what we have just said: *This method has been accepted. **However**, it may not be the best one.*

- We use *whereas* to say that something is true of one thing but it is not true of another: *Why are some cancers curable **whereas** others are not?*

- We use *while* at the beginning of a clause to introduce information which contrasts with something we have said in the main clause: *The first car is made in Korea **while** the second one is manufactured in Japan.*

## Practice

- 1 Fill in each space with an appropriate word or phrase. In some cases, more than one answer is possible.

- 1 ..... she joined the company only a year ago, she has already been promoted twice.
- 2 Fast food is cheap ..... food in a proper restaurant is more expensive.
- 3 We went out ..... the rain.
- 4 ..... he was only twelve he could run faster than any other child in the class.
- 5 Even ..... they loved each other, they decided to part.
- 6 The children are very clever. ...., they can be very noisy at times.

- 2 Match the items in the two columns. The first one has been done as an example.

Example: Even though he set off early, g

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|--|--|
| 1 I like holidays in the mountains, .....                          | a while her husband is a taxi driver.                      |
| 2 Despite public protests, .....                                   | b consumer goods are selling well.                         |
| 3 In spite of high prices, .....                                   | c However, it is getting better now.                       |
| 4 She works in a hospital, .....                                   | d it'll be better than staying at home.                    |
| 5 The economic situation has been quite difficult. ....            | e the Government decided to build a road through the wood. |
| 6 Even though I don't really like going to football matches, ..... | f whereas my wife loves the seaside.                       |
|  | (g he still arrived late.)                                 |

- 3 Use the words in the list to complete the gaps. You will need to use some words/phrases more than once. The first (0) is given as an example.

*despite / in spite of however whereas although but even though*

## Shop till you drop!

...*Despite/in spite of*... (0) the fact that Kelly had lots of homework to do, she agreed to go shopping with her friend Justine. Justine loved to buy wild clubbing clothes, ..... (1) Kelly was more of a jeans and T-shirt kind of girl. .... (2) the rain, they set off on Saturday morning for the town centre. Justine, as always, had far more cash than Kelly. .... (3), Kelly had an eye for a bargain. Lunch time found them happy and hungry at the local burger bar. .... (4) they'd spent nearly all their money, there were still a few shops that Justine wanted to visit (.....(5) she'd promised to be frugal), and ..... (6) having aching feet, they managed a couple more hours' shopping.

*Although I disagree with what you say, I will defend to the death your right to say it.*  
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