



Listen and repeat. Then act out.



Clauses of Concession

Clauses of Concession are used to express a contrast. They are introduced with the following words/phrases:

- **Although / Even though / Though (informal) + clause**
(‘Though’ can also be put at the end of the sentence.) *Although she spent all afternoon on the project, she didn’t finish it. She spent all afternoon on the project. She didn’t finish it, though.*
 - **Despite / In spite of + noun / -ing form**
Despite / In spite of their wealth, they aren’t happy. Despite / In spite of being rich, they aren’t happy.
 - **Despite / In spite of the fact + that-clause**
Despite the fact / In spite of the fact that they are rich, they aren’t happy.
 - **While / Whereas / But / On the other hand / Yet + clause**
He’s tall while / whereas / but / on the other hand she is short. But / Yet always come between the two clauses. Tom studied hard, but he failed the exam. Tom studied hard, yet he failed the exam.
 - **Nevertheless / However + clause**
John’s flat was on fire. Nevertheless, he didn’t panic. John’s flat was on fire. However, he didn’t panic.
 - **However / No matter how + adjective / adverb + subject + (may) + verb**
However slowly he speaks, he can’t make himself understood. No matter how slowly he may speak, he can’t make himself understood.
 - **Whatever / No matter what + clause**
Whatever he said, she wasn’t convinced. No matter what he said, she wasn’t convinced.
 - **Adjective / Adverb + though + subject + verb / may + infinitive without to**
Well-qualified though he is/he may be, he can’t find a job. Early though he left/he may have left, he didn’t arrive on time.
 - **Adjective / Adverb + as + subject + verb**
Careful as she is, she had an accident.
- Clauses of concession express opposition or unexpected results. *Even though she is a careful driver, she had a terrible accident. (unexpected result) In spite of the rain, the game wasn’t called off. (opposition)*
- A comma is used both when the clause of concession precedes and follows the main clause.
- Even though she was tired, she worked overtime. She worked overtime, even though she was tired.*

22 Underline the correct item.

- 1 However / **Although** hard he studies, he doesn't get good marks.
- 2 My sister has dark hair **whereas** / **despite** I am blonde.
- 3 **Despite** / **While** going on a diet, she put on five kilos.
- 4 Clever **whereas** / **as** he is, he failed the test.
- 5 **Even though** / **Despite** he had little money, he insisted on paying for the meal.
- 6 **In spite of** / **Whatever** I say, she doesn't believe me.
- 7 I invited Sue. She didn't come, **although** / **though**.
- 8 My mother is French **whereas** / **even though** my father is Polish.
- 9 Persuasive **though** / **but** you may be, I won't change my mind.
- 10 **Even though** / **Despite** we're good friends, we don't meet very often.

23 Fill in: *even though*, *however*, *whereas*, *though* or *despite*.

- 1 A: Does Laura have a driving licence?
B: No. She took a lot of lessons; *however* she failed the test.
- 2 A: Isn't John too short to play basketball?
B: Not at all. his size, he's actually a great player.
- 3 A: I think we have the same type of MP3 player.
B: No. Yours can play videos mine can't.
- 4 A: Arsenal lost their match at the weekend.
B: I know. They're still top of the league table,
- 5 A: Sarah eats a lot of junk food, she never puts on weight.
B: True, but it's still bad for her health.

24 Match the words/phrases in the three columns. Then make sentences using the words/phrases: *even though*, *however*, *despite the fact* or *yet*.



A



B



C



D

Jobs

- teacher
- footballer
- nurse
- pilot

Pros

- get long holidays
- earn a lot of money
- get the chance to help sick people
- travel around the world

Cons

- have short careers
- need to work at home a lot
- work long shifts
- be away from home a lot

A *Even though teachers get long holidays, they need to work at home a lot.*

25 Rephrase the sentences using the words in brackets, as in the example.

- 1 Alan has a cold. He wants to play in the football match. (**despite, although**)

Despite having a cold, Alan wants to play in the football match.

Although Alan has a cold, he wants to play in the football match.

- 2 I studied all weekend. I didn't pass the test. (**nevertheless, in spite of**)

- 3 Paul looks exhausted. He's just come back from a holiday. (**even though, however**)

- 4 John plays the guitar very well. He has a terrible voice. (**but, however**)

- 5 It was snowing. He decided to walk to school. (**although, despite**)

- 6 Spielberg is my favourite director. I don't have any of his films on DVD. (**while, yet**)

26 Fill in: **despite, but, even though, no matter how, whereas or no matter what.**

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