

Linking Words of Contrast

although	even though	however	nevertheless
	whereas	even so	having said that
	despite	in spite of	on the other hand

Fill in the Blank

Complete each sentence with the most appropriate linking word of contrast from the box below. Before choosing your answer, ask yourself: Is this one sentence or two? What structure follows the blank a clause, a noun, or an -ing form? More than one answer may be grammatically possible; choose the most natural one for the context.

1. ____ the government invested heavily in education, literacy rates have not improved significantly.
2. The negotiations were long and difficult. ____, both parties reached a final agreement.
3. ____ facing severe budget cuts, the research team managed to publish three major papers.
4. Developed nations tend to have higher carbon emissions ____ developing countries contribute proportionally less.
5. The vaccine has shown strong efficacy in trials. ____, distribution remains a major global challenge.
6. ____ the considerable evidence against him, the court ruled in his favour.
7. Working from home offers greater flexibility. ____, it can lead to social isolation and reduced productivity.
8. ____ she had been warned about the risks, she chose to proceed with the operation.
9. The technology is innovative and promising. ____, it is far too expensive for widespread adoption.
10. ____ having studied abroad for three years, he returned without any professional connections.
11. Public transport in the capital is frequent and affordable ____ services in smaller cities are often unreliable.
12. The findings are consistent with previous research. ____, the sample size is too small to generalise.