

## 1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

- 1 a Germany spent 1.5% of GDP on defence. The US, in contrast, spent 3.2%.  
b Germany spent 1.5% of GDP on defence. On the contrary, the US spent 3.2%.
- 2 a Japan, on the other hand, experienced a slight drop over the same period.  
b Japan, on the other side, experienced a slight drop over the same period.

We use *in contrast* to introduce a fact or idea which is very different from what has already been mentioned. Notice the position of the phrase in the sentence:  
*Questionnaires produce only limited responses. Interviews, **in contrast**, are time-consuming, but allow for fuller replies.*

*In Britain only 9% of over sixties live with their families, **in contrast to** 29% in Japan.*

We can also say that there is *a contrast between* two things which are very different:  
*There is a stark **contrast between** the affluent suburbs **and** the nearby slum areas.*

We use *on the contrary*, especially in speech, to introduce the opposite of what has just been said or to express an opposite opinion:

*'Have visitor numbers dropped since the attack?' 'On the contrary, they've risen slightly.'*

We use the phrase *on the other hand* to introduce an opposite viewpoint:

*Parents need to warn their child about things to avoid, but, **on the other hand**, they must not make the child over-anxious.*

## 2 Correct the mistake below.



I'm a bit of a fitness fanatic.  
My sister, on the contrary, prefers less energetic hobbies.

I'm a bit of a fitness fanatic. My sister .....

## 3 Complete the sentences with one of the phrases from above.

- 1 Abacus made profits of \$343 million. Zenon, ....., made only \$17.9 million.
- 2 Water doesn't shrink when it turns into ice, but, ....., it expands.
- 3 The town remains relatively undeveloped ..... others along the coast.
- 4 The ..... the two politicians could not be greater.
- 5 A dog's nose is vastly more sensitive than our own. Birds, ....., have a comparatively poor sense of smell.
- 6 The centre of the island is wild and rocky ..... the soft sandy beaches.
- 7 Overweight people usually clear their plate. Slim people, ....., stop eating when they feel satisfied.
- 8 Some jobs might be lost, but ....., others would be created.