

Sentence Structure - Contrast

Clauses

Clauses are sections of sentences which contain an idea.

I can't speak because I'm at work.

Verb clauses / noun clauses

Verb clauses contain a subject/object + verb:

I can't speak because I'm at work.

Noun clauses contain noun phrases &/or gerunds in the place of verb phrases:

Despite **having long arms**, Paul is a bad climber.

Exercise 1

Match the two sections of sentence.

1. I am unaware of the exact reasons for the melting of the ice caps		a) I haven't seen any improvement so far!
2. Joanne has never been to France		b) he doesn't really understand the modern types.
3. My children have been doing lessons of various types for the last three months		c) it is clear that the way we live is unsustainable.
4. My dad is a big fan of music		d) my wife can't stand them.
5. John wants his commute to be more eco-friendly		e) she can actually speak the language very well, due to her school studies.

6. I prefer drinks with no added sugar		he doesn't own a bicycle and there are no tram stops nearby.
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Contrast

conjunction	verb or noun	example
<p>but</p> <p>although even though though while</p> <p>However,</p> <p>(remember - always two sentences)</p> <p>Sometimes we use however after the subject in the second sentence but 95% we use it at the beginning of the second sentence.</p> <p>in spite of the fact that</p> <p>despite the fact that</p>	<p>verb</p>	<p>I love to eat out but I hate paying expensive prices for food.</p> <p>Although I love to eat out, I hate paying expensive prices for food.</p> <p>I love to eat out, although I hate paying expensive prices for food.</p> <p>Mr Smith has made good progress. However, he is not ready for discharge.</p> <p>1) Gravinate is good for nausea. However, paracetamol is not.</p> <p>2) Gravinate is good for nausea. Paracetamol, however, is not.</p> <p>1) Living near the coast <u>is</u> really good for your mental wellbeing. Having your house in a crowded suburban neighbourhood, however, <u>is</u> not.</p> <p>2) Living near the coast <u>is</u> really good for your mental wellbeing. However, having your house in a crowded suburban neighbourhood <u>is</u> not.</p> <p>In spite of the fact that Paul was tall, he couldn't reach the coats.</p>

<p>even if</p> <p>Used to emphasise that the action in the second clause is not possible, although the action in the first clause seems to make it likely.</p> <p>nevertheless</p> <p>this thing is true - but this opposing action or state is true</p>		<p>Despite the fact that we operated early, we couldn't stop the spread of the infection.</p> <p>We couldn't stop the spread of the infection despite the fact that we operated early.</p> <p>Don't mix up the clauses:</p> <p>Despite the fact that we couldn't stop the spread of the infection, we operated early.</p> <p>The meaning has changed <u>completely</u>.</p> <p>Even if you were the last man on Earth, I would not marry you.</p> <p>I am not rich. I will not pay your gambling debt.</p> <p>Even if I had a lot of money, I would not pay your gambling debt.</p> <p>I wouldn't pay your gambling debt, even if I was rich.</p> <p>The sea is 1 degree. Nevertheless, I am going for a swim.</p> <p>This soup is disgusting. Nevertheless, I am going to eat it.</p>
<p>despite</p> <p>in spite of</p>	<p>noun</p>	<p>Paul (lots of friends) lonely <u>Paul has lots of friends</u> but <u>he feels lonely</u>. Paul feels lonely despite <i>having</i> lots of friends.</p> <p>Paul (popular) unhappy Paul is popular but he is unhappy. Paul is unhappy despite <i>being</i> popular.</p> <p>Common errors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite he was tall • Despite, • Despite him being tall, he couldn't reach the coats. (if we haven't already mentioned the person we don't know them) • Despite of • In spite of • In spite,

Exercise 2

1. love Europe. (never travel)
2. John / hate cooking. (love eating)
3. eat/lots of fruit (unhealthy)

Exercise 3

Spot the mistakes:

1. Despite **being** rich, John always felt sad.
2. We were excited about the new restaurant but the food was bitter and we didn't eat any of it.
3. Although I drink a lot of water, I still feel dehydrated.
4. Paul achieved the highest honours at university **in spite of the fact that** *he comes / in spite of coming* from an underprivileged background.
5. I'd love to come to your party. **However**, I am busy this weekend.
6. Although trains are cheaper, I prefer to drive.

Exercise 4

Use the prompts to make sentences with contrast

1. Your condition has improved. (vitals not good enough/no discharge)
2. An 'A' in your next assignment is not enough to keep you on the course.
3. Plants like daffodils and roses need sunlight. (not rhubarb)
4. My son loves Tokyo. (London/promotion)
5. The captain continued playing with a painful injury.
6. There was no evidence of petechial rash. Sarah thought she had meningitis.

Answers

Exercise 1

1. I am unaware of the exact reasons for the melting of the ice caps	but it is clear that the way we live is unsustainable.
2. Joanne has never been to France	but she can actually speak the language very well, due to her school studies.
3. My children have been doing lessons of various types for the last three months	but I haven't seen any improvement so far!
4. My dad is a big fan of music	but he doesn't really understand the modern types.
5. John wants his commute to be more eco-friendly	but he doesn't own a bicycle and there are no tram stops nearby.
6. I prefer drinks with no added sugar	but my wife can't stand them.

Exercise 2

Possible answers:

1. I love Europe but I have never travelled there.
2. Although John loves eating, he hates cooking.
3. I eat lots of fruit. However, I am unhealthy.

Exercise 3

1. Despite being rich, John always felt sad.

2. We were excited about the new restaurant, but the food was cold and we didn't eat any of it.
3. Although I drink a lot of water, I still feel dehydrated.
4. Paul achieved the highest honours at university in spite of coming from an underprivileged background.
5. I'd love to come to your party. However, I am busy this weekend.
6. Although trains are cheap, I prefer to drive.

Exercise 4

Some possible answers:

1. Your condition has improved. **Nevertheless**, your vitals aren't good enough for discharge.
2. **Even if** you get an 'A' in your next assignment, it won't be enough to keep you on the course.
3. Plants like daffodils and roses need sunlight **but** rhubarb does not.
4. **Despite** loving Tokyo, my son is moving to London for a promotion.
5. The captain continued playing **in spite of the fact** he was injured.
6. Sarah didn't have a petechial rash. **Nevertheless**, she thought she had meningitis.