

CONTRAST CLAUSES

B2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Question Practice | 20-30 minutes

Explain unexpected contrasts with full clauses or noun and -ing phrases.

1. GET STARTED

Take turns asking and answering. Give details and ask a follow-up. You can invent personal details.

A: Was the outdoor concert worth it in that rain?

B: Yes. **Although we got soaked**, the atmosphere was brilliant.

A: I'd have left early. You stayed **despite the weather**?

2. UNEXPECTED POSITIVES

1. What outing did you enjoy **despite** some difficulty? Explain both sides.
2. What do you keep doing **even though** you find it challenging?
3. What product would you recommend **although** it has a drawback?
4. When did you succeed **in spite of** limited time or resources?
5. What place do you like **despite** a feature other people dislike?
6. What person do you get on with **even though** your tastes differ?

Keep talking: Why was that unexpected? / Did the benefit outweigh the drawback? / Would you do it again?

3. EXPLAIN THE TRADE-OFF

Give contrasting facts. Use a clause after **although** and a noun or -ing phrase after **despite**.

7. Recommend an expensive activity **despite** its cost. Why might it be worthwhile?
8. Describe a useful app **although** one feature frustrates you.
9. Explain why you completed a task **in spite of feeling** tired.
10. Defend an unpopular choice using **even though** to acknowledge the objection.

4. MAKE A BALANCED RECOMMENDATION

Compare two trips, courses or purchases. Each must have a benefit and a drawback.

Recommend one while acknowledging its weaknesses. Your partner challenges your choice.

Example: Despite being expensive, the course offers plenty of individual feedback.

Respond with a different contrast expression, then agree on which drawback matters most.

Answer help: Although / even though + clause; despite / in spite of + noun or -ing.

Remember: Use **despite**, not **despite of**. Don't add **but** to the same **although** sentence.