

# 150 But, although, in spite of, whereas, etc.

## 1 But, although and however

We can join two sentences with **but**.

*The café was crowded, **but** we found a table. Nick has a car, **but** he doesn't often drive it.*

**But** expresses a contrast or conflict between two ideas. We can also use **although**.

***Although** the café was crowded, we found a table. **Although** Nick has a car, he doesn't often drive it.*

The clause with **although** can come at the end.

*We found a table, **although** the café was crowded.*

**However** is a little formal.

*The new system was supposed to be more efficient. **However**, in practice it caused chaos./In practice, **however**, it caused chaos.*

## 2 Though and even though

**Though** is informal. It means the same as **although**.

***Though/Although** I liked the sweater, I decided not to buy it.*

We can also use **though** at the end of a sentence.

*I liked the sweater. I decided not to buy it, **though**.*

**Even though** is stronger, more emphatic than **although**.

*Matthew looked quite fresh, **even though** he'd been playing squash.*

***Even though** you dislike Jessica, you should try to be nice to her.*

## 3 In spite of and despite

We use **in spite of** before a noun or before the ing-form of a verb.

*Kitty wanted to report on the war **in spite of** the danger.*

*Mark went on working **in spite of** feeling unwell.*

We use **despite** in exactly the same way as **in spite of** and with the same meaning.

*She wanted to go **despite** the danger. He went on working **despite** feeling unwell.*

## 4 In spite of and although

IN SPITE OF

*I'm no better **in spite of** the pills/**in spite of** taking the pills.*

*Laura wants to fly **in spite of** her fear/**in spite of** feeling afraid.*

NOT ~~***in spite of** she feels afraid.*~~

ALTHOUGH

*I'm no better, **although** I've taken the pills.*

*Laura wants to fly, **although** she feels afraid.*

We can use **in spite of the fact (that)** in the same way as **although**.

*I'm no better **in spite of the fact that** I've taken the pills.*

## 5 Whereas, while and on the other hand

We use these words to express a comparison between two ideas.

*United are top of the league, **whereas** City are bottom.*

*Yesterday it was freezing cold, **while** today it's quite warm.*

*The flat is conveniently located. **On the other hand**, there's a lot of noise from the traffic./*

*There is, **on the other hand**, a lot of noise from the traffic.*

Sometimes either **but** or **whereas** is possible.

*The red pills make me feel sick, **but/whereas** the blue ones don't.*