

LINKING WORDS

1– IN SPITE OF AND DESPITE

CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER

..... Martin could easily afford to go on holiday, he never does.

- A Although
- B Despite
- C In spite of

In spite of
and
Despite

They are used to link an event with a situation which makes the event unlikely.

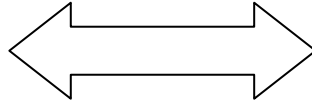
<p>... go at the beginning or in the middle of the sentence:</p>	<p><i>In spite of / Despite</i> having little money, we were very happy. <i>We were very happy in spite of / despite</i> having little money.</p>
<p>... are followed by -ing or a noun:</p>	<p><i>He continued to work in spite of / despite being ill.</i> <i>He continued to work in spite of / despite his illness.</i></p>
<p>... are often followed by THE FACT THAT + subject + verb</p>	<p><i>I got the part in spite of the fact that I had no experience.</i> <i>Despite the fact that I had no experience, I got the part.</i> “Despite THE FACT THAT Martin could easily afford to go on holiday, he never does”.</p>



In spite of is more common in speaking than *despite*.

2- BUT, ALTHOUGH AND THOUGH

These words contrast two events or ideas.



1- **ALTHOUGH** is stronger than...

2- **THOUGH** is stronger than...

3- **BUT**.



BUT always goes in the middle of the sentence

“I like making films **BUT** I’m really a stage actor”



ALTHOUGH and **THOUGH** can go in the middle or at the beginning of the sentence

“I like making films **THOUGH** / **ALTHOUGH** I’m really a stage actor”

OR

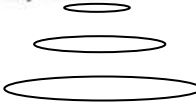
“**THOUGH** / **ALTHOUGH** I’m really a stage actor, I like making films”
(notice the comma)



PLEASE REMEMBER:

Compare although and in spite of / despite:

- Although the traffic was bad, } we arrived on time. (*not* In spite of the traffic was bad)
In spite of the traffic, }
- I couldn’t sleep { although I was very tired. (*not* despite I was tired)
despite being very tired. }



***IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT** the traffic was bad.

***DESPITE THE FACT THAT** I was tired.

EXERCISE

Complete the sentences with **although / in spite of / because / because of**.

- 1 Although it rained a lot, we enjoyed our holiday.
- 2 a all our careful plans, a lot of things went wrong.
b we'd planned everything carefully, a lot of things went wrong.
- 3 a I went home early I was feeling unwell.
b I went to work the next day I was still feeling unwell.
- 4 a She only accepted the job the salary, which was very high.
b She accepted the job the salary, which was rather low.
- 5 a I managed to get to sleep there was a lot of noise.
b I couldn't get to sleep the noise.

ANSWERS

2.- IN SPITE OF, ALTHOUGH 3.- BECAUSE, ALTHOUGH
4.- BECAUSE OF, IN SPITE OF 5.- ALTHOUGH, BECAUSE OF
(Though and Despite are also possible)

EXERCISE

Match the beginnings and endings of these sentences.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 I know Shanghai quite well, ...g.. | a you should read it carefully. |
| 2 In spite of injuring his foot, | b he was a very wealthy man. |
| 3 He doesn't earn very much, | c he won the race. |
| 4 Although he's not keen on computers, | d in spite of being so talented. |
| 5 Smiling and holding hands, | e this book is still very useful. |
| 6 When changing the torch battery, | f they announced their engagement. |
| 7 Before signing that document, | g but I've never been to Beijing. |
| 8 After winning the lottery, | h Dad emails us when he's away. |
| 9 Despite the fact that it is very old, | i be careful not to damage the bulb. |

ANSWERS

2F, 3H, 4E, 5B, 6A, 7C, 8D, 9-I

ANSWERS

2C, 3D, 4H, 5F, 6-I, 7A, 8B, 9E

