

Although, however, in spite of/ despite (CONTRAST)

These connectors may have similar meanings but:

1. They are followed by different structures.
2. They take different places in the sentence

EVEN THOUGH and **ALTHOUGH** are followed by a *clause* (subject+verb). When the *although* clause comes first, it is followed by a comma.

Although they played well, they lost.

Even though she was tired, she went out.

DESPITE and **IN SPITE OF** are followed by a *noun*, a *gerund* (-ing form) or *noun phrase* (the fact(that)).

She couldn't communicate in French **despite** all her years of study.

We lost the game, **despite** the fact that we practiced all week.

Despite not having an umbrella, I walked home in the rain

She couldn't communicate in French **in spite of** all her years of study.

We lost the game, **in spite of** the fact that we practiced all week.

In spite of not having an umbrella, I walked home in the rain

The linker **HOWEVER** starts a new sentence and is followed by a comma.

However is much more common in written English than in spoken English.

I can understand everything you say about wanting to share a flat with Martha. **However**, I am totally against it.

Connectors are usually written in **specific places** in a sentence:

- At the **beginning** of a sentence:
however, nevertheless, on the one hand, on the other hand.
- Either at the **beginning** or in the **middle**:
despite, in spite of, although, even though.
- Only in the **middle** of a sentence:
but

Rewrite each sentence beginning as shown. Do not change the meaning.

- Although it was snowing, we went out for a walk.
Despite.....
- Some experts think prices will fall, but others disagree.
While
- Even though they were losing at half-time, City won in the end.
Despite
- Despite the heat, Diana wore her winter clothes.
Although
- Whereas last summer was good, this summer it's rained all the time.
Last summer was good
- James had a headache, but he still read until late.
In spite of
- Although Jon hadn't studied, he did well in the test.
Jon hadn't studied

Fill in the blanks with the suitable connector:

1. _____ she is beautiful, everybody hates her.
2. The children slept deeply _____ the noise.
3. _____ earning a low salary, Sara helped her parents.
4. Jane rarely sees Alan _____ they are neighbors.

5. Kate didn't do well in the exam _____ working very hard.
6. _____ I was very hungry, I couldn't eat.
7. _____ the difficulty, they managed to solve the problem.
8. Liza never talked to him _____ she loved him.
9. _____ it was cold, Marie didn't put on her coat.