

# in spite of / despite / although

## *in spite of / despite / although*

**In spite of**, **despite** and **although** are all used to show a contrast but there are differences in the structures used with them.

### **In spite of / despite**

After **in spite of** and **despite** we use a **noun** or a **pronoun**.

*We enjoyed our camping holiday in spite of the rain.*

*Despite the pain in his leg he completed the marathon.*

*Despite having all the necessary qualifications, they didn't offer me the job.*

Remember that the gerund ('-ing' form) is the 'noun' form of a verb.

The only difference between **in spite of** and **despite** is the '*of*'.

~~*Despite of the bad weather, there was a large crowd at the match.*~~

### **Although**

After **although** we use a **subject** and a **verb**.

*We enjoyed our camping holiday although it rained every day.*

*Although he worked very hard, he didn't manage to pass the exam.*

*The holiday was great although the hotel wasn't very nice.*

We can use **in spite of** and **despite** with a **subject** and **verb** if we include the expression '*the fact that*'.

*In spite of the fact that he worked very hard, he didn't manage to pass the exam.*

*Despite the fact that he worked very hard, he didn't manage to pass the exam.*

### **Even though**

**Even though** is a slightly stronger form of **although**.

*We decided to buy the house even though we didn't really have enough money.*

*You keep making that stupid noise even though I've asked you to stop three times.*

Like **although**, **even though** is followed by a **subject** and a **verb**.

1. Make six sentences by using a concessive linker and by matching both parts of the sentence.

EVEN THOUGH ALTHOUGH	using sophisticated technology,	she thinks she won't succeed in the exam.
	his fame,	she has decided to follow an acting career.
IN SPITE OF DESPITE	his work is hard,	he doesn't want to be a professional player.
	studying hard,	he remains very humble.
	the fact that her parents want her to be a doctor,	the factory doesn't produce much.
	he likes football	he enjoys doing it.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_



2. Choose the most suitable concessive connector.

1. Although / despite/ In spite of he is very rich, he doesn't forget where he came from.
2. Their car broke down. They are going to the concert, although / though/ even though.
3. Despite / Although / Even though the fact that it rained a lot, they all went out.
4. Even though / In spite of / Despite he was sick, he went to work.

3. Complete the sentences with although or despite.

1. I'll invite her to my party \_\_\_\_\_ she didn't invite me to hers.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ his lack of instruction, he speaks quite well.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ it isn't very late, he should have already arrived.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ her broken leg, she managed to move quite fast.

**4. Complete the sentences about a trip you have made.**

1. Although I didn't speak the language, \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In spite of \_\_\_\_\_, I got to the airport in time.
3. Even though the hotel had four stars, \_\_\_\_\_.
4. I went sightseeing despite \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Although \_\_\_\_\_, I bought some souvenirs.
6. I spent a week there, though \_\_\_\_\_.



## ANSWER KEY

1.

1. Even though (although) he likes football, he doesn't want to be a professional player.
2. In spite of (despite) using sophisticated technology, the factory doesn't produce much.
3. In spite of (despite) his fame, he remains very humble.
4. Although (even though) his work is hard, he enjoys doing it.
5. Despite (in spite of) studying hard, she thinks she won't succeed in the exam.
6. Despite (in spite of) the fact her parents want her to be a doctor, she has decided to following an acting career.

2.

1. Although
2. though
3. Despite
4. Even though

3.

1. although
2. Despite
3. Although
4. Despite

4.

1. Although I didn't speak the language, I decided to go to Italy.
2. In spite of the traffic, I got to the airport in time.
3. Even though the hotel had four stars, there wasn't a swimming-pool.
4. I went sightseeing despite the bad weather.
5. Although the prices were high, I bought some souvenirs.
6. I spent a week there, though I'd have liked to stay some more time.