Linking Words Worksheet: Although, However, Despite

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Remember

Form	Example
although / even though + subject + verb	Although she was tired, she went to the party.
despite / in spite of + noun or -ing	Despite the rain, we went out. In spite of feeling ill, he came.
However, (new sentence, comma after)	The hotel was expensive. However, it was perfect.
but (joins two clauses, informal)	It was cheap but good.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
Despite it was raining, we played.	Although it was raining, we played. / Despite the rain, we played.
Although he is rich, but he is unhappy.	Although he is rich, he is unhappy.
In spite of be tired, she worked.	In spite of being tired, she worked.

1. Complete

Complete with although, despite or however.

1. _____ the traffic, we arrived on time.
2. _____ I studied a lot, I failed the test.
3. The food was great. _____, the service was slow.
4. She went to work _____ feeling ill.
5. _____ he lives near the sea, he can't swim.
6. I love my job. _____, I'd like to earn more.
7. _____ the high price, the tickets sold out in an hour.
8. We had a great time _____ it rained every day.

2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. (Although / Despite) the cold, they swam in the sea.
2. (Even though / In spite of) she's rich, she lives simply.
3. He passed the exam (although / despite) not studying.
4. The film was long. (However / Although), it was never boring.
5. In spite of (the noise / it was noisy), I slept well.
6. (Although / However) I was tired, I couldn't sleep.
7. Despite (to have / having) a map, we got lost.
8. It's a small flat (but / despite) it's very bright.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. Despite she was ill, she came to work.

2. Although it was late, but we kept talking.

3. In spite of the weather was bad, we went out.

4. The car is old, however it works perfectly.

5. Despite of the price, I bought it.

6. Even the hotel was expensive, we loved it.

Writing

Write a short review (6–7 sentences) of a restaurant, hotel or film with good and bad points. Use although, despite and however at least once each.

Speaking

- Tell me about something you did even though you didn't want to.
- What is a place you love despite its problems?
- What are the good and bad points of your city? Use however.
- Talk about a time you succeeded in spite of a difficulty.

Answer key

1. Complete: 1 Despite · 2 Although · 3 However · 4 despite · 5 Although · 6 However · 7 Despite · 8 although

2. Choose: 1 Despite · 2 Even though · 3 despite · 4 However · 5 the noise · 6 Although · 7 having · 8 but

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 Although she was ill, she came to work. / Despite being ill, she came to work. · 2 Although it was late, we kept talking. · 3 In spite of the bad weather, we went out. · 4 The car is old. However, it works perfectly. · 5 Despite the price, I bought it. · 6 Even though the hotel was expensive, we loved it.

Writing, model answer: Last week I tried a new Italian restaurant near my office. Although it was quite expensive, the food was excellent. The pasta was fresh and the desserts were amazing. However, the service was very slow. Despite having a reservation, we waited twenty minutes for a table. Even though the music was too loud, I would go back for the food.