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LEARN THE BASIC GRAMMAR TO COMPARE ITEMS AND IDEAS!

Sometimes it is necessary to show a difference or a contrast between two statements. There are many ways to do this but one way is by using a clause of contrast or a contrasting clause. In this Micron Moment, we will go over some clauses you can use to show the difference between two statements.

EXAMPLES

Clauses of contrast words

✓ **Although** – It can be used in the beginning or middle of a sentence. It is followed by a subject and a verb.

e.g. **Although** it rained, they continued working on the new building.

e.g. They continued working on the new building, **although** it rained.

✓ **Though** – We use "though" in a similar way to "although," but it is more informal. In spoken English "though" is more common.

e.g. **Though** he was busy, he still found time to meet with me.

e.g. He still found time to meet with me, **though** he was busy.

✓ **Even though** – a little bit stronger than "though" and "although." It can be used at the beginning or middle. It is also followed by a subject and a verb.

e.g. **Even though** the project was behind, we still hit the deadline.

e.g. We still hit the deadline, **even though** the project was behind.

✓ **In spite of** – It can also be used in the beginning or middle of a sentence. It is followed by a noun, a pronoun, or a gerund (-ing).

e.g. **In spite of** the economic downturn, there were no layoffs.

e.g. There were no layoffs, **in spite of** the economic downturn

✓ **Despite** – It can also be used at the beginning or middle of a sentence. It is also followed by a noun, pronoun, or gerund.

e.g. **Despite** the snow, everybody on my crew came to work.

e.g. Everybody on my crew came to work, **despite** the snow.

EXAMPLE DIALOGUE

A: I hope this project can finish on schedule.

B: I think we are all right. Although there have been problems getting supplies, we have not lost that much time. We used other suppliers and found what we needed.

A: That's true. And even though we failed the first inspection, we worked really hard and passed another one before it was necessary.

B: I forgot about the inspection! Despite those setbacks, we are only a week or two behind. If we don't have any more major ones I think we will be fine.

YOUR TURN!

Combine these sentences with a clause of comparison!

1. I went to work. I felt sick.
2. I ate breakfast. I wasn't hungry.
3. I stayed late. I also stayed late the night before.
4. I exercised. It was raining.
5. I am on a diet. I had ice cream after lunch.
6. I study English. It is difficult.
7. I am taking a vacation. I am not going anywhere.
8. I have to work on Saturday. It is my day off.



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