

# Using Connectives: A Simple Guide

## 1. However

Usage: Used to show contrast between two sentences.

Structure: Sentence 1. However, sentence 2.

Example: I wanted to go for a walk. However, it started raining.

Rule: Always use a full stop or semicolon before 'however', and a comma after it.

## 2. Although

Usage: Used in the same sentence to introduce a contrast.

Structure: Although + subject + verb, main sentence.

Example: Although he studied hard, he did not pass the exam.

Rule: Use a comma after the 'although' clause if it comes first.

## 3. Despite

Usage: Used in the same sentence to show contrast.

Structure: Despite + noun/noun phrase, main sentence.

Example: Despite the rain, we continued the match.

Rule: Do not follow 'despite' with a full clause (use a noun or gerund).

## 4. In Spite Of

Usage: Same as 'despite'. Used in the same sentence.

Structure: In spite of + noun/noun phrase, main sentence.

Example: In spite of his efforts, he failed the test.

Rule: Like 'despite', it is followed by a noun or gerund.

## 5. Regardless

Usage: Typically used across two parts of a sentence.

Structure: Main sentence, regardless of + noun phrase.

Example: She went ahead with the plan, regardless of the risks.

Rule: Usually followed by 'of' and a noun or gerund.

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### 6. Nonetheless

Usage: Used between two sentences to contrast ideas.

Structure: Sentence 1. Nonetheless, sentence 2.

Example: It was cold. Nonetheless, they went swimming.

Rule: Like 'however', it requires a full stop or semicolon before it.

### 7. Whereas

Usage: Used in the same sentence to compare two clauses.

Structure: Clause 1, whereas + clause 2.

Example: He enjoys classical music, whereas she prefers pop.

Rule: Use a comma before 'whereas' when connecting two independent clauses.

### 8. While

Usage: Can be used in one sentence for contrast or time.

Contrast Structure: While + clause, main clause.

Time Structure: Main clause while + clause.

Contrast Example: While I like tea, my brother prefers coffee.

Time Example: I was reading while he cooked dinner.

Rule: Use commas for clarity when showing contrast.