

Lesson 18. Clause of Concession

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Learning Objectives

After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Identify other ways to compare nouns, pronouns, verbs...etc
- Understand how each comparative expression is formed.
- Determine the correct forms of comparatives to complete sentences.
- Make own sentences using comparative expressions covered in the lesson properly.

Lesson 18. Clauses of Concession

A **concessive clause** is a **clause** expresses an idea that suggests the opposite of the main part of the sentence. A **concessive clause** is usually introduced by a subordinate conjunction, though, although or even if. It admits (or concedes) some fact or supposition in spite of which the assertion in the main clause is made.

Example:



Although he's quiet, he's not shy.

It begins with a concessive clause- "Although he's quiet " which has the opposite meaning of - "he's not shy" which is the main part of the sentence.

What does concession mean?

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Study these examples:



"He had enough money."

" He refused to buy a new car."

The above two statements can be combined as follows :

<i>Although</i> <i>Even though</i>	he had enough money,	he refused to buy a new car
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OR

He refused to buy a new car	<i>although</i> <i>even though</i>	he had enough money.
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Structure:

"Although", and "even though" introduce concessive clauses.

Although /even though	subject	verb
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Example:



Although it was raining, she walked to the station.

Even though she is very old, she runs fast.



Despite/in spite of:

Despite and *in spite of* do not introduce a concessive clause. They are rather followed by a **noun** or a **verb+ing** form.

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Study these examples:



"He had enough money."

"He refused to buy a new car."

The above two statements can be combined as follows :

<i>Despite</i> <i>In spite of</i>	all his money,	he refused to buy a new car.	OR	He refused to buy a new car	<i>despite</i> <i>in spite of</i>	all his money.
	having enough money,					having enough money.

Structure:

Despite / in spite of	+ a noun ,
	+ verb + ing.

Examples:

Despite /in spite of **the rain**, he walked to the station.

Despite /in spite of **being** tired, he walked to the station.

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Although I do not like his manners, I respect his character.



We won the game, though we expected to lose.



Even if you fail, you will have gained experience.



Even if you were a king, you would find somebody or something more powerful than yourself.



Though he should read books forever, he would not grow wise.

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Identify the conceding clause.

1. Although I do not like his manners, I respect his character.
2. We won the game, though we expected to lose.
3. Even if you fail, you will have gained experience.
4. Even if you were a king, you would find somebody or something more powerful than yourself.
5. Though he should read books forever, he would not grow wise.
6. Whichever argument you present, he will carry his point.
7. Weak as I am, I will make the effort.
8. Gay as the scene was, 'twas but a dreary place for Mr. Esmond.
9. Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home.
10. I will help you, cost what it may!
11. The men managed to survive even though they were three days without water.
12. John is very popular among his friends, whereas his brother is reclusive
13. We decided to buy the house even though we didn't really have enough money.
14. You keep making that stupid noise even though I've asked you to stop three times.

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The main clause, when it follows the concessive clause, may be emphasized by means of yet, still, nevertheless.

Example: Although the task was heavy, yet his courage never failed.
Though his reputation was great at home, yet it was greater abroad.

Concessive clauses sometimes omit the copula and its subject.

Example: Though [he was] tired, he was not disheartened.
This punishment, though perhaps necessary, seems rather severe.

A concessive clause may be introduced by the conjunction as or by a relative pronoun or a relative adverb.

Example: Whatever you say, he will carry his point.
Weak as I am, I will make the effort.
Gay as the scene was, 'twas but a dreary place for Mr. Esmond.

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Though and although

Both these words can be used as conjunctions with the same meaning. **Though** is more common. **Though** and **although** mean 'in spite of the fact that', 'even if' and similar ideas.

- **Though** he is poor, he is always neatly dressed.
Though you hate me, I will always serve you faithfully.
I would like to go out **although** it is raining.

Even if and even though

Even is not used as a conjunction, but we can use **even if** and **even though** to connect two clauses.

- I will go **even if** you forbid me to.
- I enjoyed the film **even though** I had a headache.
The men managed to survive **even though** they had nothing to eat or drink.
Even if I fail, I will try again and again until I succeed.

While and whereas

While can mean although.

- **While** I admire your courage, I think you ought not to go on this dangerous journey.
While it is true that I have some lands and houses, I do not have liquid cash to invest in industry.
Whereas John had more enemies than friends, his brother was extremely popular.

In a special structure, **as** is sometimes used instead of **though**.

Young as he is, he occupies a responsible position in the firm. (= Though he is young, he occupies a responsible position in the firm.)

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Remember

- ➔ Although, even though + subject + verb
- ➔ In spite of, despite + noun or verb+ing
- ➔ There are structural similarities between:
 - *"in spite of", "despite" and "although", "even though"*
 - *"because of", "due to", "owing to", "thanks to" and "because", "since", "as", "for" (i.e., expressions of cause and effect)*

In spite of Despite	+ noun
Because of Due to owing to Thanks to	
Although Even though	+ verb
Because Since For As	

Lesson 18. Clauses of Concession

Complete the sentences below with the correct present participle clauses.

1. (Although, In spite of) she is beautiful, everybody hates her.
2. The children slept deeply (although, in spite of) the noise.
3. (Although, In spite of) earning a low salary, Sara helped her parents.
4. Jane rarely sees Alan (although, in spite of) they are neighbors.
5. Kate did not do well in the exam (although, in spite of) working very hard.
6. (Although, In spite of) I was very hungry, I couldn't eat.
7. (Although, In spite of) the difficulty, they managed to solve the math problem.
8. Liza never talked to him (although, in spite of) she loved him.
9. It is said that English people usually drink tea (whereas, though) American people prefer coffee.
10. He still remains really attached to his mother country : Italy, (although, despite) he has lived in England for over 20 years, now !
11. He had decided to take up the job, (in spite of, even though) he wasn't fully skilled.
12. (Though, In spite of) his being rich, he's not generous at all to the needy.
13. (Despite, Though) he was suspicious about their real motives, he handed his papers to the policeman.
14. No! Of course not! He isn't my cousin, (whereas, in spite of) what he said... He's a stranger to me...
15. Jim is small and thin, (despite, unlike) his twin brother who is tall and fat.

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Add clauses of concession to the following:

1. She (still) broke up with him.
2. Mr. Jones received a promotion.
3. The company sales continued to decrease.
4. Don't take unnecessary risks.
5. I'm sure she will never get contented.
6. Ms. Diaz has never lost hope.
7. Your opinion won't matter.
8. Mr. Smith remained honest.
9. The men managed to survive.
10. His brother is reclusive.
11. He has become a successful businessman.
12. She drank it to keep herself warm.
13. The old woman told interesting stories to her grandchildren.
14. He managed to ace the interview.
15. My daughter refused to go to bed.

The End