Although, Despite and However — Worksheet

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30 exercises · Level B1–B2 · Answer key on the last page Free for classroom use

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Choose the correct option (a–d) for each gap or question. Check yourself with the answer key on the last page.

1. _____ it was very cold, the children played outside all afternoon.
   a) Despite b) However c) Although d) But

2. The concert went ahead in spite _____ the storm.
   a) — b) of c) from d) that

3. We had a great time at the beach _____ the strong wind.
   a) although b) however c) despite d) despite of

4. Despite _____ for ten hours, I still felt tired in the morning.
   a) I slept b) sleeping c) sleep d) to sleep

5. Despite _____ the kitchen was tiny, he cooked an amazing dinner.
   a) that b) of the fact that c) the fact of d) the fact that

6. She went to work _____ she had a bad cold.
   a) even b) despite c) even though d) however

7. Sales rose sharply last year. _____, the company's profits fell.
   a) Although b) Despite c) Whereas d) However

8. The bus was very late. _____ this, we caught our train.
   a) Although b) Despite c) However d) In spite

9. Despite not _____ a word of the language, he made lots of friends.
   a) speak b) he spoke c) speaking d) spoke

10. Although _____, the market was busy all day.
    a) prices were high b) the high prices c) of the high prices d) high prices

11. The restaurant was expensive. The service, _____, was excellent.
    a) although b) but c) despite d) however

12. I called her three times, _____ she didn't answer.
    a) however b) but c) despite d) nevertheless

13. The film was a bit long. I really enjoyed it, _____.
    a) although b) despite c) whereas d) though

14. Our car broke down. _____, we got to the wedding on time.
a) Nevertheless b) Although this c) Despite of this d) Even though

15. She stayed calm _____ all the pressure at work.
a) although b) despite c) however d) but

16. They still went camping _____ the forecast was terrible.
a) although b) despite c) however d) even

17. She got the job _____ having no experience in sales.
a) however b) but c) despite of d) despite

18. Nobody complained, _____ the fact that the room was cold.
a) in spite of b) although c) however d) in spite

19. I still remember her face _____ we met only once, years ago.
a) even b) despite of c) even though d) however

20. The tickets were cheap; _____, the seats were terrible.
a) although b) however c) despite d) whereas

21. _____ she was nervous, she sang beautifully _____ her sore throat.
a) Although … despite b) Despite … although c) Although … although d) Despite … despite

22. The phone is old, _____ it's still very fast. _____, the battery doesn't last long.
a) however … However b) but … Despite c) but … However d) despite … However

23. _____ the rain, the race started on time. _____ the track was wet, nobody fell.
a) Although … Despite b) Despite … Although c) Despite … Despite d) Although … Although

24. _____ the course was short, it was useful. _____, it was quite expensive.
a) Although … However b) However … Although c) Although … Despite d) Despite … However

25. The test was hard, _____ I passed. My friend failed, _____.
a) however … though b) but … although c) despite … though d) but … though

26. Which sentence is correct?
a) Despite of feeling tired, she kept running.
b) Despite she felt tired, she kept running.
c) Despite feeling tired, she kept running.
d) However feeling tired, she kept running.

27. Which sentence is correct?
a) Although it was late, we kept working.
b) Although it was late, but we kept working.
c) Despite it was late, we kept working.
d) Even it was late, we kept working.

28. Which sentence is correct?
a) The shop was closed, however, the owner let us in.
b) The shop was closed. Even though, the owner let us in.
c) The shop was closed however, the owner let us in.
d) The shop was closed. However, the owner let us in.

29. Which sentence is correct?
a) The room was small. It was very clean, although.
b) The room was small. It was very clean, though.
c) The room was small. It was very clean, despite.
d) Despite the room was small, it was very clean.

30. Which sentence is correct?
a) Despite of the fact that it was sunny, I stayed in.
b) Although the fact that it was sunny, I stayed in.
c) Despite the fact that it was sunny, I stayed in.
d) Despite that it was sunny, I stayed in.

Answer Key

Although, Despite and However · Explanations are shortened — the full interactive version is at gramvoy.com/exercises/although-despite-however/

1. c) Although
It was very cold has a subject and a verb, so Although.

2. b) of
The full phrase is in spite of + a noun: in spite of the storm.

3. c) despite
The strong wind is a noun phrase with no verb, so despite.

4. b) sleeping
Despite is a preposition, so a verb after it takes -ing: sleeping.

5. d) the fact that
The kitchen was tiny is a full clause, and despite can't take one directly, so add the fact that.

6. c) even though
She had a bad cold is a clause, so even though, a stronger although.

7. d) However
The gap starts a new sentence and stands alone before a comma, so However.

8. b) Despite
This is a pronoun that stands for the late bus, so Despite + this.

9. c) speaking
After despite a verb takes -ing, and not goes before it: despite not speaking.

10. a) prices were high
Although is a conjunction, so it takes a clause with a subject and a verb: prices were high.

11. d) however
However can also stand in the middle of a sentence, between commas, after the subject: The service, however, was… Although, but and despite need a…

12. b) but
Inside one sentence, after a comma, but joins the two clauses.

13. d) though
At the end of a sentence, after a comma, informal English uses though in the sense of however.

14. a) Nevertheless
A new sentence and a comma after the gap call for a linking adverb: Nevertheless, a formal however.

15. b) despite
All the pressure at work is a noun phrase without a verb, so despite.

16. a) although
The forecast was terrible is a clause, so although.

17. d) despite
Having no experience is an -ing form, so despite: a preposition can take a verb in -ing.

18. a) in spite of
The fact that the room was cold works like one noun, so in spite of, which needs its of.

19. c) even though
We met only once is a clause, so even though, a stronger although.

20. b) however
After a semicolon, with a comma after the gap, the linking adverb however fits.

21. a) Although … despite
She was nervous is a clause, so Although; her sore throat is a noun phrase, so despite.

22. c) but … However
Inside one sentence, after a comma, but joins two clauses.

23. b) Despite … Although
The rain is a noun, so Despite; the track was wet is a clause, so Although.

24. a) Although … However
The first gap opens a clause that comes before the main one, so Although.

25. d) but … though
Inside one sentence, after a comma, but joins two clauses.

26. c) Despite feeling tired, she kept running.
Despite is a preposition, so it takes a noun or an -ing form: despite feeling tired.

27. a) Although it was late, we kept working.
Although already links the two clauses, so but is one linking word too many: Although it was late, we kept working.

28. d) The shop was closed. However, the owner let us in.
However links two separate sentences: a full stop (or a semicolon) before it and a comma after it.

29. b) The room was small. It was very clean, though.
In informal English though can end a sentence and mean however: It was very clean, though.

30. c) Despite the fact that it was sunny, I stayed in.
A clause after despite needs the fact that in between: despite the fact that it was sunny.