

An adverb clause (a dependent clause) is a group of words that plays the role of an adverb. There are different kinds of adverb clauses: *time, place, condition, manner, contrast, purpose, comparison or degree, cause and result*.

RELATED: Don't miss our [Complete guide to adverb clauses](#) with definitions, types, and examples.

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Clauses of contrast

Clauses of contrast (or *concession*) are used to show the difference between two statements. We can use '*although*', '*though*', '*even though*', '*in spite of*' and '*despite*'.

Although

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

- ***Although it rained***, they enjoyed their walk.
- They enjoyed their walk, ***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 than 'although':

- **Though it was** expensive, I enjoyed the meal.
- I enjoyed the meal, **though it was** expensive.

Even though

'Even though' is a little stronger than 'though' and 'although'. It can also be used at the beginning or in the middle of a sentence. Again, it is followed by a subject and a verb:

- **Even though I was** full, I couldn't stop eating.
- I couldn't stop eating, **even though I was** full.

In spite of

We use 'in spite of' at the beginning or in the middle of a sentence. It is followed by a noun, a pronoun or a gerund (-ing):

- **In spite of the pain**, Harry finished the race.
- Harry finished the race, **in spite of the pain**.

Despite

We use 'despite' at the beginning or in the middle of a sentence, too. Again, it is followed by a noun, a pronoun or a gerund (-ing):

- **Despite the snow**, I drove to my grandma's house.
- I drove to my grandma's house, **despite the snow**.

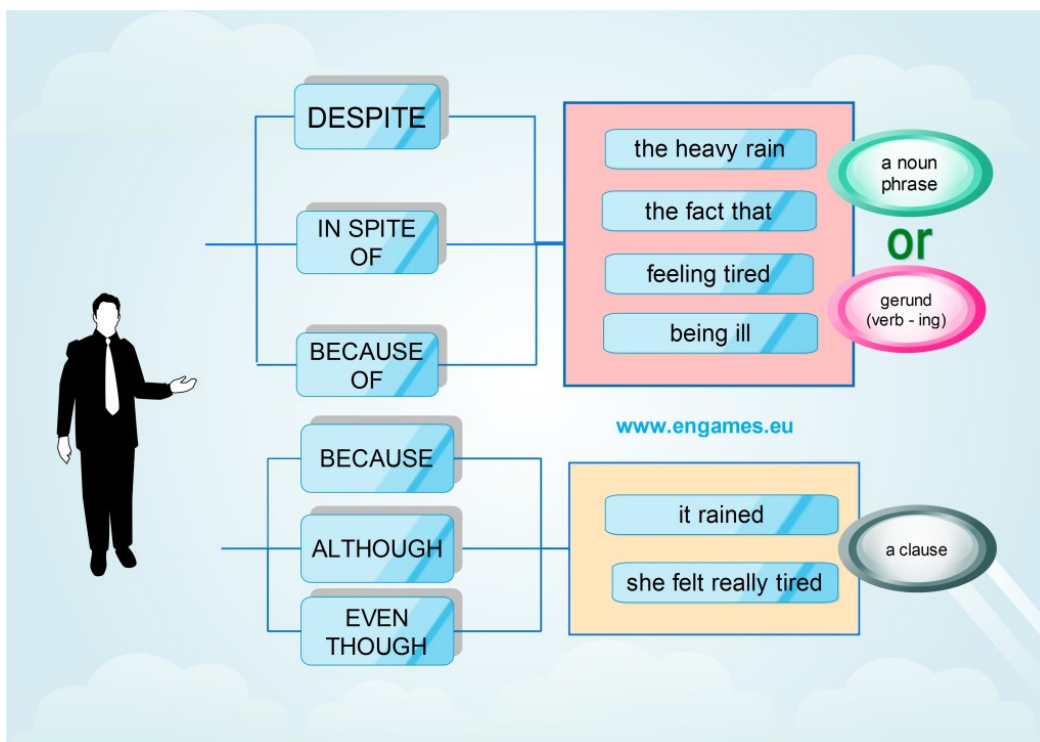
Note: Do not use **'of'** with **'despite'**. For example:

- I drove to my grandma's house, **despite** the snow.
 NOT: I drove to my grandma's house, ~~**despite of**~~ the snow.

You must use **'of'** with **'in spite of'**. For example:

- I drove to my grandma's house, **in spite of** the snow.
 NOT: I drove to my grandma's house, ~~**in spite**~~ the snow.

This chart shows the usage of clauses of contrast in summary:



via <http://sorayaeoi.blogspot.com/2017/11/clauses-of-contrast-and-purpose.html>

Watch this video from [EngVid](#) to learn how to express opposing ideas in English:

Clauses of purpose

Clauses of purpose are used to show why something is happening. We can use *'to'*, *'for'*, *'in order to'*, *'so as to'* and *'so that'*.

To

We often use 'to' to show why something is happening. We use the *infinitive* form of the verb:

- *My mother went out **to buy** some milk.*
- *'m going to Spain **to see** my friend.*
- *I'm going outside **to find** some flowers.*

For

We use 'for' to show the exact purpose of something. It is followed by a noun or a gerund (-ing):

- *We went to the supermarket **for bread**.*
- *The mop is **for cleaning** the floor.*
- *She went out **for a meal**.*

In order to

'In order to' is more formal than 'to'. Again, we use the infinitive form of the verb:

- *I did some research **in order to find** the best music player.*
- *A meeting was arranged **in order to discuss** the team's progress.*
- *Harry studied all night **in order to pass** his English exam.*

So as to

'So as to' is also more formal than 'to'. Again, we use the infinitive form of the verb:

- *I bought a smaller car **so as to save** money.*
- *Elliot moved to a new house **so as to be** closer to his parents.*
- *She left early **so as to be** at home with her family.*

Note: When we want to say something **negative** using **'in order to'** or **'so as to'**, we can put **'not'** before the **'to'**.

For example:

- I woke up early **in order not to** miss the bus.
- I woke up early **so as not to** miss the bus.

So that

'So that' is paired with a subject and a modal verb like 'could', 'would', 'can' or 'will':

- I gave her my phone number **so that she could** call me.
- I'm going out **so that I can** buy fruit.
- I did some exercise **so that I would** feel better.

This video explains how to use adverb clauses of purpose:

Read more on this topic:

[Adverb Clauses of Cause, Result and Comparison](#)

[Adverb Clauses of Time, Place, Condition and Manner](#)

[Conjunctions of Contrast](#)