

Linking Words (although, however, because of...) – Test 1



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Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 30

Choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each question.

Part 1: Choose the correct linking word

Choose the word or phrase that best completes each sentence.

1. _____ it was raining, we went for a walk in the park.
 A However B Although C Because of D Despite
2. The flight was cancelled _____ the heavy snow.
 A because B although C because of D so
3. I studied hard. _____, I didn't pass the exam.
 A Although B Because C Despite D However
4. Mia stayed at home _____ she felt ill.
 A because B because of C however D despite
5. _____ the traffic, Daniel arrived on time.
 A Although B However C Because D Despite
6. The shop was closed, _____ we went to the supermarket instead.
 A because B so C although D however
7. Ahmed saved money _____ buy a new bike.
 A so that B for C in order to D because
8. I'll write it down _____ I don't forget.
 A so that B in order to C because of D despite
9. Lucy likes tea, _____ her brother prefers coffee.
 A because B whereas C so D despite
10. The match was delayed _____ bad weather.
 A because B although C so that D due to

Part 2: Correct sentences and common errors

Choose the correct sentence, find the mistake, or choose the best answer.

11. Choose the correct sentence.
 A Despite it was cold, she didn't wear a coat.
 B Because of it was cold, she didn't wear a coat.
 C Although it was cold, she didn't wear a coat.
 D However it was cold, she didn't wear a coat.

12. Choose the correct sentence.
A In spite the bad weather, the concert went ahead.
B In spite of the bad weather, the concert went ahead.
C Despite of the bad weather, the concert went ahead.
D In spite of the weather was bad, the concert went ahead.
13. Find the mistake: "Because of I was tired, I went to bed early."
A Because of **B** was tired **C** went to bed **D** early
14. Find the mistake: "She failed the test despite she studied a lot."
A failed **B** the test **C** despite **D** a lot
15. Choose the correct sentence.
A I didn't go to the party because of I was busy.
B I didn't go to the party despite I was busy.
C I didn't go to the party, because of busy.
D I didn't go to the party because I was busy.
16. A: Why didn't you come to class yesterday? B: _____ I had a bad cold.
A Because of **B** So **C** Because **D** Although
17. Which sentence has the same meaning as: "Although Tom was tired, he finished his homework."?
A Tom was tired, so he didn't finish his homework.
B Despite being tired, Tom finished his homework.
C Tom finished his homework because he was tired.
D Tom didn't finish his homework because he was tired.
18. _____ she has lived in Spain for years, she doesn't speak Spanish.
A Even **B** Despite **C** However **D** Even though
19. It was a difficult test. I enjoyed it, _____.
A although **B** despite **C** though **D** even though
20. Find the mistake: "We took a taxi so that to arrive on time."
A We took **B** so that to **C** arrive **D** on time

Part 3: Linking words in a text

Read the text. For questions 21–26, choose the word that best fills each numbered gap. For questions 27–30, answer the questions about the text.

Last summer, Priya decided to take part in a charity run in her town. (21) ____ she had never run more than two kilometres before, she was sure she could do it. She started training in March (22) ____ she wanted to be ready in time. At first, it was very hard. She often felt tired, and on some mornings she stayed in bed (23) ____ the cold weather.

Her friend Kenji offered to help. He made a training plan for her, and they ran together three times a week. (24) ____, Priya hurt her ankle in May and had to stop for two weeks. She was worried, but she didn't give up. She went swimming (25) ____ stay fit while her ankle got better.

On the day of the race, it was very hot. (26) ____ the heat, Priya ran the whole ten kilometres without stopping. She didn't win, but she finished in under an hour, so she was very proud of herself. She also raised a lot of money for a local children's hospital. Now she runs every weekend, even though the race is over.

21. Gap (21): _____ she had never run more than two kilometres before, she was sure she could do it.
A Because **B** However **C** Although **D** Despite
22. Gap (22): She started training in March _____ she wanted to be ready in time.
A although **B** because **C** because of **D** so
23. Gap (23): On some mornings she stayed in bed _____ the cold weather.
A because **B** although **C** despite **D** because of
24. Gap (24): _____, Priya hurt her ankle in May and had to stop for two weeks.
A However **B** Although **C** Because **D** So that
25. Gap (25): She went swimming _____ stay fit while her ankle got better.
A so that **B** to **C** because of **D** for
26. Gap (26): _____ the heat, Priya ran the whole ten kilometres without stopping.
A Although **B** However **C** Because of **D** In spite of
27. In the sentence "She was worried, but she didn't give up", the word 'but' shows...
A a reason **B** a result **C** a contrast **D** a purpose
28. In the sentence "...she finished in under an hour, so she was very proud of herself", the word 'so' introduces...
A a contrast **B** a result **C** a reason **D** a purpose
29. What does "Now she runs every weekend, even though the race is over" mean?
A She runs because the race is over.
B She stopped running after the race.
C She only runs when there is a race.
D She still runs every weekend although there is no race to train for now.
30. Which sentence about the text is correct?
A Priya ran the race despite the hot weather.
B Priya ran the race because of her ankle.
C Priya stopped running because it was hot.
D Priya didn't train, so she lost the race.

Answer key – Linking Words (although, however, because of...) – Test 1

1 B	2 C	3 D	4 A	5 D	6 B	7 C	8 A	9 B	10 D
11 C	12 B	13 A	14 C	15 D	16 C	17 B	18 D	19 C	20 B
21 C	22 B	23 D	24 A	25 B	26 D	27 C	28 B	29 D	30 A

Explanations

- B** – Although is followed by a full clause (subject + verb) and shows contrast.
- C** – Because of is followed by a noun phrase (the heavy snow), not a clause.
- D** – However starts a new sentence, is followed by a comma and shows contrast with the previous sentence.
- A** – Because introduces a reason clause with a subject and verb (she felt ill).
- D** – Despite is followed by a noun (the traffic) and shows contrast.
- B** – So introduces a result: the shop was closed, and the result was going to the supermarket.
- C** – In order to + infinitive expresses purpose; 'for buy' and 'so that buy' are incorrect.
- A** – So that is followed by a clause (I don't forget) to express purpose.
- B** – Whereas compares two different facts and joins two clauses.
- D** – Due to means 'because of' and is followed by a noun phrase (bad weather).
- C** – Only although can be followed directly by a full clause to show contrast here.
- B** – We say 'in spite of' or 'despite' (never 'despite of') + noun phrase.
- A** – Because of cannot be followed by a clause; it should be 'Because I was tired'.
- C** – Despite needs a noun or -ing form; use 'although she studied' or 'despite studying'.
- D** – Because + clause (I was busy) correctly gives the reason for the negative action.
- C** – We answer a 'why' question with because + clause.
- B** – Despite + -ing (being tired) expresses the same contrast as although + clause.
- D** – Even though is a stronger form of although and is followed by a clause.
- C** – Though can go at the end of a sentence to mean 'however'; although and even though cannot.
- B** – Use 'to arrive', 'in order to arrive' or 'so that we arrived', not 'so that to'.
- C** – Although + clause shows a contrast between her lack of experience and her confidence.
- B** – Because + clause gives the reason why she started training.
- D** – Because of + noun phrase (the cold weather) gives the reason.
- A** – However at the start of a sentence, followed by a comma, shows an unexpected problem after the good training.
- B** – To + infinitive expresses purpose (why she went swimming).
- D** – In spite of + noun (the heat) shows a contrast: it was hot, but she didn't stop.
- C** – But links two contrasting ideas: feeling worried and not giving up.
- B** – So introduces the result of finishing in under an hour: she felt proud.
- D** – Even though shows contrast: the race is finished, but she continues running.
- A** – The text says it was very hot, but she ran the whole race without stopping.

Notes for teachers: Use this test after teaching linkers of contrast, reason, result and purpose, or as a diagnostic before a writing unit. It targets typical B1 errors: using despite or because of before a full clause, writing 'despite of' or 'in spite the', joining two clauses with however as if it were but, and using 'so that to' or 'for + verb' for purpose. As a follow-up, ask students to rewrite sentences from Part 2 with a different linker, for example although becomes despite + noun or -ing.