**Linking words of contrast**

We use words and phrases like **though**, **although** and **even though** to link two clauses together. We call them **linking words of contrast**. We use **despite**and **in spite of**in front of nouns and gerunds.

Marta broke her leg a year ago. Marta ran a marathon last weekend.

* ***Despite****breaking her leg a year ago, Marta ran a marathon last weekend.*

Binh loves football. Binh has never been to a professional football match.

* ***Though****Binh loves football, he's never seen a professional match.*

**Where to use them**

**Although**, **even though** and **though** go in front of a clause. They can go at the beginning or middle of a sentence.

* ***Although****Endang worked hard, she failed her exams.*
* *Endang failed her exams,****although****she worked hard.*
* ***Though****it was cold, Katya only wore a t-shirt.*
* *Katya only wore a t-shirt,****though****it was cold.*

**Despite** and **in spite of** go in front of nouns or gerunds. They can also go at the beginning or middle of sentences.

* ***Despite****smoking 40 cigarettes a day, my grandfather lived to 100.*
* *My grandfather lived to 100,****despite****smoking 100 cigarettes a day.*
* ***In spite of****the terrible weather, they had a nice holiday.*
* *They had a nice holiday,****in spite of****the terrible weather.*