Connectors of contrast

Because is a connector that links cause and effect. It is used to express the idea of expected results.

- I didn't go swimming *because* the weather was cold.
- Because the weather was cold, I didn't go swimming.

The outcome (not swimming) is logical and expected.



Here is how we can express contrast or unexpected results:

- I went swimming even though it was cold.
- Even though it was cold, I went swimming.
- Although it was cold, I went swimming.
- Though it was cold, I went swimming.

The outcome is surprising and unexpected:

I went swimming in the cold!

(Study the punctuation in the examples above.)

Here are more ways to say the same thing.

- but . . . anyway
- but . . . still
- yet . . . still

- It was cold, but I went swimming anyway.
- It was cold, but I still went swimming.
- It was cold, yet I still went swimming.

These are more formal ways to say the same thing.

- It was cold. *Nevertheless*, I went swimming.
- It was cold; nevertheless, I went swimming.

- It was cold. *Nonetheless,* I went swimming.
- It was cold. *However,* I still went swimming.

(Again, study the punctuation patterns—you'll have to do this in your own writing!)

You can use these words with a noun phrase:

despite + noun phrase
in spite of + noun phrase

- I went swimming despite the cold weather.
- I went swimming in spite of the cold weather.

In these examples, "the cold weather" is a noun phrase, not a whole sentence. Do not follow *despite* or *in spite of* with a whole sentence!

Show contrast in the following sentences. (unexpected result)

Complete the sentences with **but, even though**, or **nevertheless**. Look at the punctuation—it will tell you which words to use!

- 1. Andrew ate a large dinner. ____, he is still hungry.
- Andrew ate a large dinner, _____ he is still hungry.
- 3. Andrew is still hungry _____ he ate a large dinner.