

Clauses of contrast and concession, clauses of comparison

I. Clauses of contrast and concession

II. Other ways of expressing contrast and concession

III. Clauses of comparison

IV. Other ways of expressing comparison

I. Clauses of contrast and concession

Conjunctions

although	ačkoliv, třebaže
though	ačkoliv, třebaže
whereas	kdežto, zatímco
while	kdežto, zatímco

Examples:

*You can choose another topic for your paper **although/though** I'm not quite sure whether your supervisor will approve it.*

*The old system was rather complicated **whereas/while** the new system is really simple.*

Notes:

- "**though**" is **less formal** than "although".
- "**while**" introduces also **time clauses**.

*He was working in the laboratory **while** I was teaching. (= zatímco, po tu dobu, co)*

but	ale, avšak
(and) yet	a přece

Examples:

*Most people think they know their strengths **but** they are usually wrong.*

*He thought he met all the requirements of the job, **yet** he did not get it.*

II. Other ways of expressing contrast and concession

1. Prepositions

despite	přes, navzdory
in spite of	přes, navzdory

Example:

*He decided to take the course **despite** the fact/**in spite of** the fact that he didn't have the necessary theoretical background.*

2. Sentence linkers

on the other hand	na druhé straně
on the contrary	naopak
in contrast (to)	naopak, na rozdíl (od)
however	(a)však
nevertheless	nicméně, přesto
nonetheless	nicméně, přesto
instead	místo (toho)

Examples:

*His first presentation at an international conference was not a big success; **on the contrary**, it was a disaster.*

*I tried hard to convince him that going to that workshop was a good idea. **Nevertheless/ However**, he didn't take my advice.*

*If you can't attend the meeting, I can go **instead**.*

III. Clauses of comparison

Conjunctions

as as	tak jako
not as/so as	ne tak jako
than	než
as	jako

Examples:

*We work **as** hard **as** any other team at the University.*

*He doesn't speak English **as/so** well **as** she (does).*

*She speaks English better **than** he (does).*

*Maybe we could organize a workshop **as** we did last year.*

Note:

When the clause contains an adjective and a singular noun, "**a/an**" is placed **before the noun**.

*Finding a solution is not **as/so big a** problem as you might think.*

Common mistake:

Wrong: *The problem is bigger **as** you might think.*

Right: *The problem is bigger **than** you might think.*

IV. Other ways of expressing comparison

Sentence linkers

in comparison with/to	ve srovnání s
by comparison with	ve srovnání s
compared with/to	ve srovnání s

Example:

In comparison with/Compared with our results, their results are not very convincing.

EXERCISES

I. Fill the gaps with suitable conjunctions, linkers, and prepositions expressing contrast, concession, and comparison as required by the context. In most of the sentences there are two or more choices.

1. There were fewer foreign participants at the conference originally expected.
2. the fact that the I-R model has been widely applied to international business studies, its application to the IS discipline is still limited.
3. Useful research has been carried out concerning cooling and ventilation of motors. , almost none has dealt with the influence of the ventilation structures on cooling large-capacity open-type motors.
4. research has progressed, many important factors have been identified.
5. the techniques we have used so far, this technique is the most efficient.
6. this looks like a great idea in theory, in practice it does not work.
7. We must abandon our dependence on conventional fossil fuels and use more renewable sources of energy.
8. Obtaining a grant for building a modern research centre is a great opportunity; there are risks involved.
9. Their economy has expanded;, ours has declined.
10. Physics for Electrical Engineers is a relatively difficult course, and it is quite popular among students.
11. The number of applicants for admission to the Faculty of Electrical Engineering is not high it was last year.
12. To summarize our findings, hypotheses 1a and 2a were supported by some peers hypotheses 1b and 2b were not supported.

II. Complete the following sentences using a linker from A and an ending from B.

A

nevertheless
despite/in spite of
in contrast
although
as
whereas/while
on the contrary
compared with
however
as
than

B

what other organizers charge
ours has declined
there are also others
I almost fell asleep
the one we took last year
his friend is taking a course in computer-aided design
assurances that it is safe
her male colleagues (are)
he did last year
I don't know exactly when
we will be able to finish the project providing we get the
grant we applied for

1. The conference will take place next year
2. This is one possible solution to this problem;
3. He gave a lecture on the same topic
4. The conference fee is low
5. This course in maths was more difficult
6. There have been serious cuts in the Faculty budget.
7. Did you find the lecture interesting?
8. Their economy has expanded enormously;,
9. He is doing a course in graphic design
10. She's as good a researcher
11. I have decided not to buy that product