

## Linking words 2

*but/(al)though; in spite of, despite; both ... and; either ... or*

### A Context listening

- A1** Selina has phoned Mr Smart to ask him about his holiday. Look at this brochure and the photo Mr Smart took. What was Mr Smart's problem?



- A2** **30** Listen and check if you were right.  
Which hotel did Mr Smart and his wife prefer?
- A3** **30** Listen again and complete the sentences below.
- 1 I enjoyed most of the holiday, ..... *but* ..... I didn't enjoy the first night.
  - 2 ..... I asked for a quiet hotel, your company put me in the Concordia.
  - 3 My wife and I ..... work very hard.
  - 4 Unfortunately ..... the manager ..... his assistant were out.
  - 5 ..... I left several messages, he didn't phone me back until the second day.
  - 6 ..... the bad start, we had a good holiday.
  - 7 I'm going to tell our bookings manager about your problems ..... she comes into the office.
  - 8 Will you phone me ..... you find out what went wrong?
  - 9 I'll ..... phone ..... email you.

- A4** Look at your answers to A3 and mark these sentences T for True or F for False.

- 1 In sentences 1, 2 and 5 *but* and *although* are used when the same idea is repeated.  
.....
- 2 In sentences 3 and 4 *both* is used before a noun and before a verb. ....
- 3 In sentence 6 *in spite of* is used before a noun. ....
- 4 In sentences 7 and 8 the *will*-future tense is used after *as soon as* and *when*. ....
- 5 In sentence 9 *either* and *or* are used before verbs. ....

## B Grammar

Linking words connect different ideas.

### B1 But, although and though

*But* and *although* (or *though*) contrast two ideas and are followed by noun + verb:

idea A	linking word	idea B
<i>The hotel was excellent</i>	<b>but</b>	<i>the food was boring.</i>
<i>The hotel was excellent</i>	<b>although/though</b>	<i>the food was boring.</i>
linking word	idea B	idea A
<b>Although/though</b>	<i>the food was boring,</i>	<i>the hotel was excellent.</i>

**!** We can't use *although* (or *though*) and *but* in the same sentence:

**not** ~~*Although the food was boring, but the hotel was excellent.*~~

*Although* (or *though*) is stronger than *but*.

*But* is always in the middle of a sentence. *Although* (or *though*) is sometimes at the beginning of a sentence and sometimes in the middle.

→C1

### B2 In spite of / despite

*In spite of / despite* + noun contrasts two ideas.

idea A	linking word	idea B
<i>The hotel was excellent</i>	<b>in spite of/despite</b>	<i>the boring food.</i>
linking word	idea B	idea A
<b>In spite of/despite</b>	<i>the boring food,</i>	<i>the hotel was excellent.</i>

**!** We can't use noun + verb after *in spite of / despite*:

**not** ~~*The hotel was excellent in spite of the food was boring.*~~

### B3 Both ... and, ... and ... both, either ... or

We use *both ... and* and *either ... or* to connect two people or things:

**Both** *my wife and I work very hard.*

**Either** *the bookings manager or her secretary made a mistake.*

We often use noun *and* noun + *both* + verb:

*Mr Smart and Mrs Smart both work very hard.*

We often use *either ... or* to connect two verbs:

**Either** *phone me or send me an email.*

*You can either eat out or have dinner in your hotel.*

**!** *Both* goes after the verb *to be* and auxiliary verbs:

*My wife and I were both looking forward to a rest.*

→C2

### B4 When, until, before, after, as soon as, while

We use *when*, *until*, *before*, *after*, *as soon as* and *while* to connect two actions in time:

**When** *we arrived in Florida, we hired a car.*

*We waited with our friends until their bus arrived.*

**!** When we talk about the future, we use a present tense after these words:

*We'll hire a car, when we arrive in Florida. (not will arrive)*

→C3, C4, C5

## C Grammar exercises

**C1** Rewrite these sentences using *although/though*.

1 I don't often eat ice cream but I really like it.

Although *I really like ice cream, I don't often eat it.*

2 Elena speaks Polish but she's never been to Poland.

..... though .....

3 Zach didn't want to go to the disco but he enjoyed it when he got there.

Although .....

4 No-one eats fruit but Mum still buys it.

..... though .....

5 Dennis didn't get good marks in his exams but he went to university.

Though .....

6 Mahmoud is the shop manager but he's only nineteen.

..... although .....

**C2** Make each pair of sentences into one sentence using the words in brackets.

1 I travelled to New York. There was a strike. (*in spite of*)

*I travelled to New York in spite of the strike.*

2 Nigel bought some CDs. Anthony bought some CDs. (*both ... and*)

*Both Nigel and Anthony bought some CDs. or Nigel and Anthony both bought some CDs.*

3 Tom sent that email. Martin sent that email. (*either ... or*)

.....

4 Dolores was working in the garden. The sun was hot. (*despite*)

.....

5 Her dress is new. Her jacket is new. (*and ... both*)

.....

6 Michael wasn't late. There was a traffic jam. (*in spite of*)

.....

7 My father gave me some money. My mother gave me some money. (*and ... both*)

.....

8 Do your homework now. Get up early and do it tomorrow. (*either ... or*)

.....

9 You can go on your bike. You can come with me in the car. (*either ... or*)

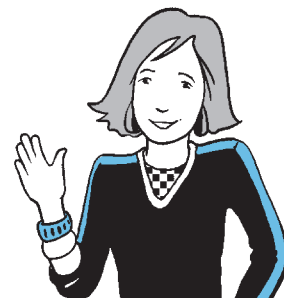
.....

**C3** Greta is talking about leaving school. Underline the correct words.

Although we enjoyed school sometimes, because we were with our friends, we were happy 1 when/while we left. We all walked out of the gate together 2 after/before we took the final exam. We wanted to go on holiday 3 while / as soon as the school term finished, but we had to wait 4 after/until we had our marks.

I got a job 5 while/before I waited to get my exam results. I needed to earn some money 6 before/when I went away.

We all phoned our friends 7 until/when the results arrived. Everyone had passed! I was so happy 8 after/when I knew that. We could all enjoy our holiday.



**C4** Read this email and put the verbs in brackets into the present simple or *will* future.

Hi Andreas

You asked about my plans for this summer. You'll be jealous when I 1 .....tel..... (tell) you! I'm going to fly to Argentina as soon as I my holiday 2 ..... (begin). My uncle will meet me when I 3 ..... (arrive) and take me to his house. I expect I 4 ..... (stay) with his family for about a month. My cousins will show me around the city before we 5 ..... (go) to their holiday house. After I 6 ..... (leave) Buenos Aires, I'm going to fly to Ecuador. I 7 ..... (tour) around until my money 8 ..... (run) out. I don't have fixed plans, but I'm definitely going to take a river trip while I 9 ..... (be) in Ecuador. I'm really excited.

What about you? What are you going to do after your exams 10 ..... (be) over?

All the best

Euan

**C5** There are mistakes in five of these sentences. Find them and correct them.

- 1 Although the film was quite exciting at the beginning, ~~but~~ the last part was so boring I fell asleep.
- 2 Both university students and school teachers can use this library.
- 3 We had a good time at the beach in spite of the weather was windy.
- 4 Maggie isn't really friendly though she is very polite.
- 5 We'll leave the restaurant as soon as the waiter will bring our bill.
- 6 This room is terribly untidy! Or help me to tidy it or go away.
- 7 In spite of our hard work, we didn't win the prize.
- 8 I don't play an instrument although my father and my mother both are musicians.
- 9 We're going to change our car before we start our tour of Scandinavia.

## D Exam practice

### Reading Part 1

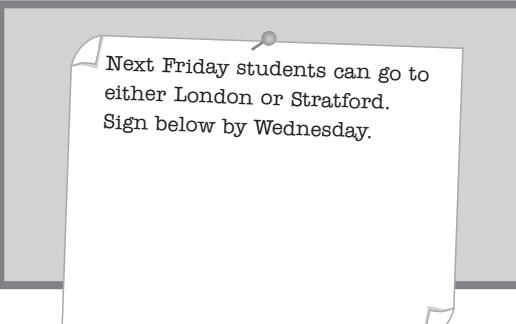
Look at the text in each question.

What does it say?

Mark the letter next to the correct explanation – **A**, **B** or **C**.

- 1**
- James  
Sally can't get tickets for the film tonight. Can you go either tomorrow afternoon or evening? Ring her as soon as you get home or by 5 at the latest.  
Mum
- A** James should tell Sally before 5 today whether he can go to the cinema tomorrow.  
**B** James should try to buy the cinema tickets as Sally can't get them.  
**C** James should phone Sally before 5 tomorrow about going to the cinema.
- 2**
- This shop is closed while owner is away. Take all enquiries to bookshop across the road.
- A** This shop has closed and is moving opposite.  
**B** This shop has a new owner who lives opposite.  
**C** If you need something, go to the shop opposite.
- 3**
- Hi Annie  
Although I'd like to lend you my camera for your holiday, I won't be able to because I've promised to take photos at Peter's wedding. Sorry. Love Ruth
- Ruth is apologising for**  
**A** not lending Annie her camera because she needs it herself.  
**B** promising to lend Annie her camera and then changing her mind.  
**C** not being able to take photos at Peter's wedding.

4



Next Friday students can go to either London or Stratford.  
Sign below by Wednesday.

- A Put your name here before Friday if you want to join a trip.
- B You can go to either London or Stratford on Friday if you put your name here.
- C The people whose names appear below are going to either London or Stratford on Wednesday.

5

*Dear Julia, I'm enjoying myself in spite of the noisy road outside the hotel. You said it was quiet when you came. Everything else is perfect - exactly as you said.*

*Carmen*

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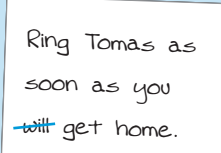
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- A Carmen is pleased that the road is not as noisy as she had expected.
- B Everything about the hotel is as Julia described it except the traffic outside.
- C Carmen is sorry she took Julia's advice when choosing her hotel.

### Grammar focus task

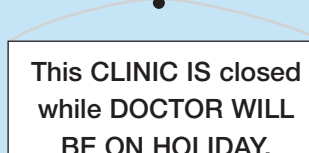
Correct these signs and messages. Look at the task above to help you.

1



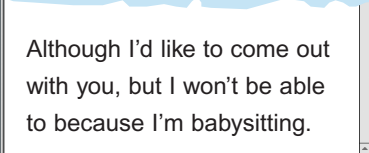
Ring Tomas as soon as you ~~will~~ get home.

2



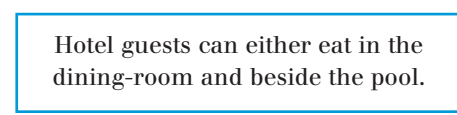
This CLINIC IS closed while DOCTOR WILL BE ON HOLIDAY.

3



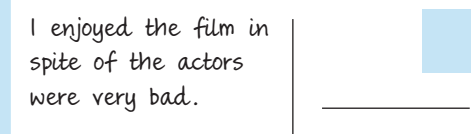
Although I'd like to come out with you, but I won't be able to because I'm babysitting.

4



Hotel guests can either eat in the dining-room and beside the pool.

5



I enjoyed the film in spite of the actors were very bad.