Although, Though, Despite, In Spite Of, and However | Grammar Exercise

The words although, though, despite, in spite of and however have very similar meanings; however, they are used in different structures.

Though and although are conjunctions. They go before a clause. Despite and in spite of are prepositions. They go before a noun or noun equivalent. However is a transitional adverb. It goes at the beginning of a sentence.

This grammar exercise tests your ability to use these words correctly.

1. ............................ the watch was expensive, he bought it.

   Although
   Despite
   However

2. We went out ................................... the rain.

   in spite of
   despite
   Either could be used here

3. We went out ............................... it was raining.

   although
   however
   despite
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4. ............................ my husband didn't like the movie, I enjoyed it a lot.

Although
Though
Either could be used here

5. He passed the test. ............................, he didn't get the job.

Despite
Although
However

6. .............................. he passed the test, he didn't get the job.

In spite of
Although
However

7. They managed to do it ............................ I was not there.

although
despite
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however

8. Tired .................................. he was, he went on working.

though
however
despite

9. ............................... hard she tried, she couldn't do it.

Despite
However
In spite of

10. ................................. of the headache, I enjoyed the movie.

Despite
In spite
However

11. ............................... I don't agree with him, I think
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he is honest.

Although
However
Despite

12. We understood him ......................... his strong accent.

despite
however
although

Answers
1. Although the watch was expensive, he bought it.
2. We went out despite / in spite of the rain.
3. We went out although / though it was raining.
4. Though / although my husband didn’t like the movie, I enjoyed it a lot.
5. He passed the test. However, he didn’t get the job.
6. Although / though he passed the test, he didn’t get the job.
7. They managed to do it though / although I was not there.
8. Tired though he was, he went on working.
9. However hard she tried, she couldn’t do it.
10. In spite of the headache, I enjoyed the movie.
11. Although I don’t agree with him, I think he is honest.
12. We understood him despite his strong accent.