

Unit 84: OPPOSITE IDEAS

Here are some ways to connect two ideas when you want to say that they are opposite to each other.

1 Contrast

a Short statements

I like university **but** I don't like studying.

I like bookkeeping. I don't like accounting, **though**.

b For **longer** statements, we can also use **although**, **however** and **on the other hand**:

Although Einstein was a very clever man, he never passed any university exams.

Working as a loan officer is very exciting. **However**, it can also be stressful.

Having an overdraft is very convenient. **On the other hand**, it can encourage people to overspend.

Although goes before the two ideas in one sentence.

However and **on the other hand** go between the two ideas.

2 Choice

a ORDINARY CHOICE:

Which do you want? The green one or the red one?

b TO SHOW STRONGLY THAT YOU MEAN NOT BOTH:

At my school, we learn **either** Economics or Taxation.

c TO SHOW PREFERENCE:

What **would** you **rather** do? Stay in or go out?

I'd **rather** stay in.

d TO CONNECT LONGER IDEAS, WE CAN ALSO USE ON THE OTHER HAND:

What do you want to do? It's a beautiful day so we could go out for a walk. **On the other hand**, we could stay in and watch sports on TV.

NOTICE: Would you like any tea or coffee?

I want you to answer **yes** or **no**.

Would you like tea or coffee?

Answer **tea** or **coffee**.