51. SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS INTRODUCING CLAUSES OF CONTRAST AND DIRECT CONTRAST (although, while...)

Subordinating conjunctions are words or phrases that introduce dependent clauses in a sentence.

Clauses of Contrast are dependent clauses used to describe conditions or events that are different than expected.

The most common subordinating conjunctions that introduce clauses of contrast are: although, though, and even though.

Clauses of Direct Contrast are dependent clauses used to show how one person, place, or thing is different from another.

The most common subordinating conjunctions that introduce clauses of direct contrast are: while and whereas.

EXAMPLES	FUNCTION
 Although it is the richest country in the world, the U.S. has one of the worst healthcare systems. (You would not expect the richest country in the world to have the worst healthcare system.) Even though the U.S. is the richest country in the world, it has one of the worst healthcare systems. The U.S. has one of the worst healthcare systems though it is the richest country in the world. 	 Subordinating conjunctions introducing clauses of contrast – although, even though, and though – introduce conditions or events that are different from what is expected. All three have the same meaning, but even though is slightly stronger than the others. The clause that contains the subordinator of contrast can come at the beginning of the sentence or at the end. When it comes at the beginning, it should be followed by a comma.
 Whereas Martin was acquitted by the jury, Jonathan was found guilty. While Martin was acquitted by the jury, Jonathan was found guilty. Martin was acquitted by the jury while Jonathan was found guilty. 	 Subordinating conjunctions introducing clauses of direct contrast while and whereas – show how one person, place, or thing is different from another. They mean the same, but whereas is more formal. The clause that contains the subordinator of direct contrast can come at the beginning of the sentence or at the end. When it comes at the beginning, it should be followed by a comma.

Note:

A subordinating conjunction creates a dependent clause. A dependent clause is not a sentence; it is a fragment. It must be connected to an independent clause.

Incorrect: Although exercising is essential for good health. It is not effective without a balanced diet. **Correct**: Although exercising is essential for good health, it is not effective without a balanced diet.

A subordinating conjunction cannot be used with a coordinating conjunction.

Incorrect: While California has a lot of mountains, but Iowa is flat.

Correct: While California has a lot of mountains, Iowa is flat.