

Speaking Exercise: Talking about your holidays

Brainstorming for ideas:

Reasons for holidays: to relax, for a change of scene, to escape from ordinary life or daily routines for a while, to see/visit other people, to learn about different cultures and lifestyles (to see how other people live), for a change of climate, to feel refreshed, to find some peace and quiet...

Expectations for a holiday: that there is good weather / that the weather is good, to meet friendly people, to enjoy night life, to find some peace and quiet, to get some time to think, or to read, or time to enjoy oneself/yourself (impersonal "you")...

Brainstorming on Language

Expressing Contrast

Coordinating conjunctions: Two complete sentences (with S + V) Sentence 1 + Sentence 2 - in contrast (coordinated sentences).

The weather was bad, but she enjoyed the trip.

The weather was bad. However, she enjoyed the trip.

Particle + noun

In spite of the bad weather, she...

Despite the bad weather, she...

Particle + S + V Sentence 1 has a clause (there's a main clause - sentence 2 - and then a subordinate clause - sentence 1)

Although the weather was bad, she enjoyed the trip. (+ the other way round)

In spite of * the fact that + S + V ...

In spite of the fact that the weather was bad...

Particle + non-personal verb

Despite the weather being bad, she...

* Despite is possible: despite of the fact, but you'll be safe if you relate "despite" to noun phrase and "in spite of the fact" to clauses (S + V).

Do the exercise and then drill with other options for each sentence:

1. it's quite expensive, we tend to go to the supermarket for fresh fish.
2. He didn't get the job, of the fact that he was the most highly qualified candidate.
3. He went to work this morning not feeling very well.
4. They said that they'd sent the parcel on February 1st....., I didn't receive it until the 28th.
5. Eme left the house at ten this morning