

Expand Using Contrast Answer Key

Answers will vary; examples provided for teacher reference.

1. The soccer team won **in spite of** the heavy rain soaking the field.
2. She smiled **despite** feeling nervous about her presentation.
3. The campers built a fire **in spite of** the strong wind blowing through the forest.
4. The car reached the finish line **despite** its engine making strange noises.
5. The baby fell asleep **in spite of** the loud music playing next door.
6. He passed the test **despite** not studying much the night before.
7. The garden looked beautiful **in spite of** the week-long drought.
8. The actor gave a strong performance **despite** forgetting a few lines.
9. The parade continued **in spite of** the dark clouds gathering overhead.
10. They completed the project **despite** losing some of their materials.

Teacher's Guide

- **Skill Focus:** Reinforces understanding of how **despite** and **in spite of** introduce contrast while encouraging sentence expansion and creative writing.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - Provide struggling students with sentence starters like "The team celebrated ___ despite ___."
 - Challenge advanced students to include adjectives or adverbs for more vivid detail.
- **Engagement Ideas:**
 - Turn it into a "Sentence Stretch" race where students compete to write the most descriptive expanded sentences.
 - Have pairs read their sentences aloud and let classmates guess whether they used **despite** or **in spite of**.
- **Extension Activities:**
 - Ask students to write a short paragraph using at least three expanded sentences showing contrast.
 - Encourage them to vary tone: one formal (academic) and one conversational version.