

## Casual To Formal Conversion Answer Key

### Sample Responses

1. Despite the loud crowd, the band played their song perfectly.
2. The students finished the project on time despite the limited materials.
3. Despite the cold weather, the volunteers stayed outside to help.
4. Despite his injury, the athlete completed the marathon.
5. The team kept working despite the late hour.
6. Despite the teacher's warning, some students continued to talk.
7. Despite the heavy rain, the soccer match continued as planned.
8. The chef prepared a delicious meal despite the missing ingredients.
9. Despite the confusion, the event turned out to be a success.
10. The hikers reached the top despite their exhaustion.

### Teacher's Guide

- **Skill Focus:** Reinforces how **despite** creates a more formal tone than **in spite of** while keeping the meaning the same.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
  - Provide examples of how small tone changes can shift writing from casual to academic (e.g., essays, reports).
  - Allow struggling students to first underline the phrase **in spite of** before rewriting for clarity.
- **Engagement Ideas:**
  - Turn it into a "Formal Makeover Challenge" where students rephrase casual speech into academic style sentences.
  - Have pairs read one version each aloud and guess which sounds more formal.
- **Extension Activities:**
  - Ask students to write their own three informal sentences using **in spite of** and then trade papers to "upgrade."
  - Encourage advanced learners to combine two ideas into one polished sentence using **despite** effectively.