

Mountain Hiking Contrasts Answer Key

The class trip to the mountain was full of surprises. The group began hiking early, **in spite of** the dark clouds in the sky. Their teacher encouraged them to continue **despite** the rain starting to fall. Some students slipped on the muddy path **in spite of** wearing good shoes. At the top, they cheered loudly, tired but happy **in spite of** the cold wind that blew through the trees. Everyone agreed that it was their favorite adventure of the year.

Teacher's Guide

- **Skill Focus:** Students identify and correct prepositional confusion between **despite** and **in spite of** in connected text.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - Model one example on the board before students begin, explaining how both phrases show contrast but differ slightly in structure.
 - Offer a visual anchor chart showing correct and incorrect examples side by side.
- **Engagement Ideas:**
 - Have students swap papers and peer-check each other's edits for accuracy.
 - Let small groups invent their own "error-filled" mini paragraphs and challenge classmates to fix them.
- **Extension Activities:**
 - Ask advanced learners to create a short story using both phrases at least twice.
 - Encourage them to look for real-life examples of these expressions in books or online articles and share them in class.