

Advanced 1
Unit 3 Language Focus 2
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Although vs. However

Both “**although**” and “**however**” are used to show contrast, but they are used in different grammatical ways.

1. “Although”

We use “**although**” as a **conjunction** to connect two clauses **within one sentence**.

The clause beginning with “**although**” is a **dependent (subordinate) clause**, and it must be followed or preceded by an **independent (main) clause**.

- **Independent clause:** a group of words that has a subject and a verb and expresses a complete thought. It can stand alone as a sentence.
- **Dependent clause:** a group of words that also has a subject and a verb, but **does not** express a complete thought. It cannot stand alone and needs to be attached to an independent clause.

Examples:

1. **Although Robert was born into a poor family, he managed to become a billionaire at the age of 30.**
 - Dependent clause: *Although Robert was born into a poor family*
 - Independent clause: *He managed to become a billionaire at the age of 30.*
2. **Although the sun was shining, it wasn't very warm.**
 - Dependent clause: *Although the sun was shining*
 - Independent clause: *It wasn't very warm.*
3. **Although we thought the figures were correct, we have now discovered some errors.**
 - Dependent clause: *Although we thought the figures were correct*
 - Independent clause: *We have now discovered some errors.*

2. “However”

We use “**however**” as a **sentence connector** (a conjunctive adverb) to show contrast **between two independent clauses**.

Each clause must be able to stand alone as a complete sentence. “However” is usually preceded by a **semicolon (;)** or a **period (.)**, and followed by a **comma (,)**.

Examples:

1. **Robert was born into a poor family; however, he managed to become a billionaire at the age of 30.**
 - Independent clause 1: *Robert was born into a poor family*
 - Independent clause 2: *He managed to become a billionaire at the age of 30.*
2. **The sun was shining. However, it wasn’t very warm.**
 - Independent clause 1: *The sun was shining*
 - Independent clause 2: *it wasn’t very warm.*
3. **We thought the figures were correct. However, we have now discovered some errors.**
 - Independent clause 1: *We thought the figures were correct*
 - Independent clause 2: *we have now discovered some errors.*

Summary

Word	Part of Speech	Connects	Clause Type	Punctuation
Although	Conjunction	Within one sentence	Dependent + Independent	No punctuation between clauses (comma optional if “although” clause comes first)
However	Conjunctive adverb	Two separate sentences	Independent + Independent	Use semicolon or period before it; comma after it

Source:

[Advanced 1 \(anglophone.ir\)](http://anglophone.ir)