

Conjunctions 2

Class Objective: I will be able to understand conjunctions and use them in sentences

Concept A: Contrasting conjunctions

Contrasting conjunctions express a contrast, an impediment. The most used conjunctions are:

1. 可是 (kěshì) “but, nevertheless”
2. 不过 (bùguò) “but, however”,
3. 但是 (dànshì) “but, nevertheless”
4. 不然 (bùrán) “otherwise”,
5. 要不然 (yàoburán) “else”
6. 否则 (fǒuzé) “otherwise”.

examples:

他想吃披萨，但是要减肥。

Tā xiǎng chī pīsa, **dànshì** yào jiǎnféi.

He wanted to eat pizza but he has to lose weight.

快起床吧，否则你会迟到！

Kuài qǐchuáng ba, **fǒuzé** nǐ huì chídào!

Get up soon, otherwise you'll be late!

我妈妈想睡觉，可是她要去上班。

Wǒ māma xiǎng shuìjiào, **kěshì** tā yào qù shàngbān.

My mom wants to sleep but has to go to work.

我们组的房子很小，不过很便宜。

Wǒmen zǔ de fángzi hěn xiǎo, **bùguò** hěn piányi.

The house we rented is small but cheap.

With contrasting conjunctives there are also the following combinations translatable with “although... nevertheless...”:

虽然 (suīrán)..., 可是 (kěshì);

虽然 (suīrán)..., 但是 (dànshì);

虽然 (suīrán)..., 不过 (bùguò).

Important: when the subject of both phrases is the same, 虽然 comes before the subject, such as in these examples:

虽然他是日本人，可是说中文说得非常流利。

Suīrán tā shì Riběnrén, **kěshì** shuō Zhōngwén shuō de fēicháng liúlì.

Although he is Japanese, nevertheless he speaks Chinese very fluently.

虽然他有的是钱，但是不愿意嫁给他。

Suīrán tā yǒudeshì qián, **dànshì** bù yuàn yì jiàgěi tā.

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