

Because of (Due to / Owing to) vs. Despite

Because of and **Despite** have almost opposite meanings.

Examples:

- Because of the rain, I didn't walk to work.
- Despite the rain, I walked to work.

- Due to the terrible pollution, I don't want to live in the city.
- Despite the terrible pollution, I like to live in the city.

- Despite the high price, Rex bought the Ferrari.
- Because of the high price, Rex didn't buy the Ferrari.

Read the sentences below. Write "Despite" or "Because of" in the blanks. Read the whole sentence and decide which one makes the most sense. (See page 79 for answers.)

1. _____ her poor health, my grandmother is very happy person.
2. _____ his learning disability, Andrew has to take special classes.
3. _____ the heat, many people stay inside in the air conditioning in the afternoon.
4. _____ his learning disability, Andrew gets very good grades.
5. _____ his poor health, my uncle could not come to my birthday party.
6. _____ the tornado, many people lost their houses.
7. _____ his wealth, Marvin lives a very normal life and doesn't buy expensive things.
8. _____ her husband's success, Mary lives a very comfortable life.
9. _____ the medicine I am taking, I should not drive a car right now.
10. _____ his good scores on English tests, Eric cannot speak very fluently.