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SENTENCE STRUCTURE L9.3 – CONCESSIVE CLAUSES (OBWOHL)

WHAT ARE CONCESSIVE CLAUSES?

Concessive clauses are subordinate clauses.

With a concessive clause, one expresses an object or a non-logical consequence to the statement of the main clause.

The concessive conjunctions are: "obwohl" and "obgleich".



COMPARISON: CAUSAL VS. CONCESSIVE

Causal (= logically connected)

- „Ich **habe** die Prüfung bestanden, **weil** ich viel gelernt **hatte**.“

Logical Consequence

Condition

- „**Weil** ich viel Geld **habe**, **kaufe** ich mir ein neues Auto.“

Condition

Logical Consequence

Concessive (= opposing arguments)

- „Ich habe die Prüfung nicht bestanden, **obwohl** ich viel gelernt **hatte**.“

Unexpected Consequence

Condition

- „**Obwohl** ich viel Geld **habe**, **kaufe** ich mir kein neues Auto.“

Condition

Unexpected Consequence

SUMMARY

- Concessive clauses are subordinate clauses and express an object or a non-logical consequence to the statement of the main clause.
- An expectation, therefore, has not been matched.
- The conjunctions are "obwohl" and "obgleich" (There is no difference between "obwohl" and "obgleich", but "obwohl" is more common to use).

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