Episode 047 – Grammar

1. **Concessive clauses with "obwohl"**

Subordinate clauses are dependent upon main clauses or other dependent clauses. They can't stand on their own. Frequently they begin with certain words (subordinating conjunctions, relative pronouns or interrogative words) that connect them to the independent clause.

"obwohl" is a conjunction that heads a concessive clause. "obwohl" (although) clauses express something contradictory or surprising in contrast to the statement made by the main clause.

Example:

*Ich trinke ein Bier, obwohl ich lieber Wein mag.*

(= I prefer to drink wine, but I am drinking a beer, e.g. because this bar doesn't have any decent wine.)

Subordinate clauses with the "obwohl" conjunction are always separated from the independent clause by a comma and the conjugated verb always comes at the end of the subordinate clause.

Examples:

*Das Lieblingsbier der Deutschen ist das Pils, obwohl ich es überhaupt nicht mag.*