Language Focus Analogies

When instructors explain a new concept, they will often compare the new idea to something that is already familiar to students. For example, the action of the heart might be compared to the action of a water pump. These kinds of comparisons are called *analogies*. Analogies that include the words *like* or *as* are called *similes*. A good analogy helps you to picture and remember a concept easily.

Expressions Used to Make Analogies

Expressions	Examples
as... as	The heart is as big as a fist.
(just) like	The heart works just like a pump.
similar to	The heartbeat is similar to a ticking clock.

6 **Listening for analogies** Listen to the study session again and make notes using the chart.

1:27 / 5:55

1. Write down all the analogies you hear. You can write them in short form by using the = sign.
2. Note which expressions the students use to make these analogies.
3. Draw a simple picture or symbol to represent the analogy. It shouldn't be a detailed drawing, just something very simple that will help you to remember the analogy.

Item	Analogy	Expression Used
shape of the heart	*heart = pear*	*similar to*
walls of the heart		
strips of muscle at the bottom of the heart		
size of the heart		
beat of the heart		
action of the heart		

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Language Focus — Intonation in Questions and Requests

0:41 / 0:41

Information questions have a rising-falling intonation pattern:

- How big is the heart?
- What does the heart do?

Yes/No questions and requests have a rising intonation pattern:

- Do you have your notes?
- Could you please repeat that?

Statements with rising intonation:

Sometimes in conversation, speakers may use rising intonation on a statement when they are surprised or expect an affirmative answer. This turns the statement into a question.

- Ready to start?
- You mean the heart beats on its own?

7 **Identifying intonation patterns** Listen to the following questions from the conversation and repeat them after the speaker. Select rising-falling or rising intonation for each question.

1. So, what are we studying next, Greta?

[redacted]

2. You mean the lecture on the heart?

[redacted]

3. And what did she say about the walls of the heart?

[redacted]

4. Are you sure about that?

[redacted]

5. Then remember how she told us to open and close our hands?

[redacted]

6. But didn't she say that the rate can vary?

[redacted]

7. Why is that?

[redacted]

8. So, that means that the heartbeat starts in the cardiac muscle itself?

[redacted]

9. OK, but how does the heart work with all of the other organs?

[redacted]

10. Can you believe that the heart works that hard?

[redacted]

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