GRAMMAR FOCUS

**Using "as" and "like"**

Do you know how to use like and as?

Test what you know with interactive exercises and read the explanation to help you.

**Look at these examples to see how as and like are used.**

I worked **as** an actor for two years.

I went home early **as** I felt ill.

He looks **as if** he hasn't slept.

**As you know**, this is the third time I've had to complain.

He **looks like** his dad.

She's **like** a sister to me.

Try to do something relaxing, **like reading** a book or having a bath.

**Try this exercise to test your grammar.**

## Grammar Test 1 - B1-B2: 'as' and 'like'

**1** Complete the sentences with 'as' or 'like':

**a)** _____ you know, the factory will shut down in May.

**b)** I'm looking for a job _____ a diving instructor.

**c)** I was so tired. I slept _____ a baby.

**d)** Study as hard _____ you can and I'm sure you'll pass your exams.

**e)** He wants to be a nurse _____ he loves helping people.

**f)** This song sounds _____ David Bowie.

**g)** I made a mistake but I just continued _____ if nothing had happened.

**h)** The music was playing _____ they walked into the church.

---

**Read the explanation to learn more.**

## Grammar explanation

**"as"** and **"like"** are often confused since they can both be used for comparisons. There are, however, important differences.

**Making comparisons**

**as + adjective + as and as much as**

We often use the structure as + adjective + as or as much as to say if something has, or doesn't have, the same amount of that quality as something else.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

GRAMMAR FOCUS

She loves curry **as much as** I do.

He's not **as tall as** his brother.

It's not **as expensive as** the other hotel.

That dog is **as big as** that child!

You also have to use **as** in the expression **the same as**.

Your phone is **the same as** mine.

Texting is not **the same as** speaking in person.

**like + noun**

In the following comparisons, like is followed by a noun or a pronoun to say that two things are similar.

He's **like a father** to me.

She's acting **like a child**.

It's **like a burger** but with big mushrooms instead of bread.

There are lots of **people like** us.

It is also common to make comparisons using **like with verbs of the senses**.

She **looks like** her mother.

It **sounds like** a cat.

Nothing **tastes like** homemade lemonade.

It **smells like** medicine.

It **feels like** cotton.

**as if/as though + clause**

**As if** and **as though** can be used to compare a real situation to an imaginary situation. They are followed by a clause (a subject and verb).

You look **as if you've seen** a ghost.

I felt **as if I was floating** above the ground.

You talk **as though we're never going to see** each other again.

**Giving examples**

We can say **like** or **such as** to give examples.

You could try a team sport **like football, basketball or hockey**.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

GRAMMAR FOCUS

You should take something soft, **such as a towel**, to lie on.

**Talking about a job or function**

We can use **as + noun** to talk about a job or function.

I worked **as a shop assistant** for two years.

He used his coat **as a blanket** to keep warm.

**as to connect two phrases**

**"as"** can be used as a conjunction to connect two phrases. It can have different meanings.

**as = 'because'**

All the tickets were sold out **as we got there too late**.

**As the road was closed**, I had to park on the next street.

**as = 'while' or 'during the time that'**

She called **as I was getting out** of the bath.

**As they were arriving**, we were leaving.

**as = 'in the way that'**

**As we expected**, it started to rain.

**As you know**, classes restart on 15 January.

**As I said**, I think this project will be a challenge.

**** Note that in informal speech, people sometimes say like for 'in the way that'.**

**Like I said**, I didn't know her.

---

Do this exercise to test your grammar again.

## Grammar Test 2 - B1-B2: 'as' and

**2 Complete the sentences with 'as' or 'like':**

**a)** She worked _____ a journalist before writing her first novel.

**b)** You look just _____ your mother when you smile.

**c)** We've only just met, but I feel _____ though I've known you all my life.

**d)** They said I didn't have _____ much experience as the other candidate.

**e)** _____ we were late, we had to get an expensive taxi.

**f)** I slept on the train, using my jacket _____ a pillow.

**g)** Many fruit trees need insects _____ bees and butterflies to help them produce fruit.

**h)** I like listening to music _____ I do the ironing.

LIVEWORKSHEETS