

# Like vs. As and Fixed Phrases: Similarity, Roles & Connectives

INTERMEDIATE

**Focus: Similarity and comparison, Preposition + noun/pronoun, Like + -ing form, Like vs Such as for examples, As usual and As always, The same as..., As you know / As I said, As expected / As I thought, As + noun (preposition), In the position of / In the form of**

In English, **Like** and **As** are often confused because they can both express similarity. However, their grammatical structures and meanings differ significantly in B1 (Intermediate) English.

## 1. Similarity and Comparison

- **Like (Preposition):** Used to say two things are similar. It is followed by a **noun**, **pronoun**, or **-ing** form. It means "similar to."
  - *Examples:* He runs **like** a cheetah. / It feels **like** flying. / She acts **like** her mother.
- **The same as:** Used when two things are exactly alike.
  - *Example:* Your phone is **the same as** mine.

## 2. Roles and Functions (As)

- **As (Preposition):** Used to describe a job, role, or function. It means "in the position of" or "in the form of."
  - *Structure:* **As** + Noun.
  - *Examples:* He works **as** a teacher. / I am using this box **as** a table.
  - *Note:* Do not use "like" for jobs. (*Wrong:* He works like a teacher. -> This means he isn't a teacher, but acts similar to one.)

## 3. Giving Examples

- **Such as:** Used to introduce a list of examples. (In casual English, "like" is also used, but "such as" is preferred in written English).
  - *Example:* I enjoy winter sports, **such as** skiing and skating.

## 4. Fixed Phrases and Connectives

We use **As** in many fixed expressions to connect ideas or comment on the situation.

Phrase	Usage	Example
<b>As usual / As always</b>	To show a habit or routine.	He was late, <b>as usual</b> .
<b>As you know</b>	Referring to shared knowledge.	<b>As you know</b> , the meeting is tomorrow.
<b>As I said</b>	Referring to something said earlier.	<b>As I said</b> , we need to hurry.
<b>As expected</b>	When the result was predicted.	He passed the test, <b>as expected</b> .

## Practice: Like, As, Such As, The Same As

**Instruction:** Complete the sentences using **like**, **as**, **such as**, or **the same as**. Read the context carefully to decide between similarity, role, example, or fixed phrase.

1. She has a very important job; she works \_\_\_\_\_ the director of marketing.
2. I don't enjoy violent movies \_\_\_\_\_ thrillers or horror films.
3. Does this coffee taste \_\_\_\_\_ the one we drank in Italy?
4. \_\_\_\_\_ I mentioned in my email, the office will be closed on Friday.
5. He didn't behave \_\_\_\_\_ a professional during the meeting; he was very rude.
6. Do you use this room \_\_\_\_\_ a guest bedroom or an office?
7. The weather isn't \_\_\_\_\_ it was yesterday; today it is much colder.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ expected, the train was delayed by twenty minutes.
9. Why are you looking at me \_\_\_\_\_ that? Have I done something wrong?
10. My brother doesn't have hobbies \_\_\_\_\_ photography or painting; he prefers sports.
11. Is she working \_\_\_\_\_ a consultant for the new company?
12. It feels \_\_\_\_\_ walking on ice when the floor is this slippery.
13. He was sitting in the corner reading a book, \_\_\_\_\_ always.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ you know, we are trying to reduce our budget this year.
15. That cloud looks exactly \_\_\_\_\_ a giant rabbit!

## Answer Key

1. **as** (Role/Job)
2. **such as** (Introducing examples)
3. **like** (Similarity/Taste) OR **the same as** (Exact comparison)
4. **As** (Connective: As I mentioned)
5. **like** (Similarity/Behavior)
6. **as** (Function/Role)
7. **the same as** (Comparison of identity)
8. **As** (Connective: As expected)
9. **like** (Similarity: in that manner)
10. **such as** (Introducing examples)
11. **as** (Role/Job)
12. **like** (Similarity + -ing)
13. **as** (Fixed phrase: as always)
14. **As** (Connective: As you know)
15. **like** (Similarity/Appearance)