

So vs. Such: Intensifiers and Result Clauses

INTERMEDIATE

Focus: so + adjective/adverb, such + (adjective) + noun, Result Clauses (that), Quantity & Time Expressions

This worksheet focuses on using **so** and **such** to add emphasis, express quantity, and create result clauses (cause and effect). While both mean "very" or "really," the grammar rules depend on what word follows them.

1. Basic Usage: Adjectives vs. Nouns

Structure	Rule	Example
SO	so + Adjective / Adverb	The music is so loud . He drives so quickly .
SUCH	such + Adjective + Noun	It is such loud music . He is such a fast driver .

*Tip: If the noun is singular and countable, you must use **such a** or **such an**. If the noun is plural or uncountable, use **such** (without a/an).*

- **Singular:** It was **such a** nice day. / It was **such an** interesting film.
- **Plural/Uncountable:** They are **such** friendly people. / It was **such** lovely weather.

2. Quantity, Time, and Distance

Special fixed expressions used to describe amounts, time, and distance.

Category	Using "SO"	Using "SUCH"
Quantity	so much (uncountable) so many (countable)	such a lot of
Time	so long	such a long time
Distance	so far	such a long way

- *Examples:*
 - There were **so many** people at the party.
 - I haven't seen her for **such a long time**.
 - We didn't know it was **so far**.

3. Result Clauses (...that)

We use **so** and **such** with **that** to explain the result or consequence of a situation. The word *that* can sometimes be omitted in spoken English.

- **Structure:** [Cause with So/Such] + **that** + [Result]
- **Examples:**
 - The tea was **so hot (that)** I couldn't drink it.
 - It was **such a boring movie (that)** we fell asleep.

Practice Exercises

Focus: So, Such, Such a, Such an, So much, So many

Instruction: Complete the sentences using **so**, **such**, **such a**, **such an**, **so much**, or **so many**. Pay attention to whether the sentence is affirmative (+), negative (-), or a question (?).

1. The instructions were _____ complicated that I couldn't understand them. (+)
2. I didn't realize it was _____ long way to the beach from here. (-)
3. Why did you buy _____ food? There are only two of us! (?)
4. It was _____ exciting game that the fans cheered for twenty minutes. (+)
5. She hasn't seen _____ bad weather in years. (-)
6. How can you work effectively with _____ noise in the room? (?)
7. The speaker spoke _____ quickly that I missed the important details. (+)
8. I haven't waited _____ long for a table at a restaurant before. (-)
9. Have you ever met _____ friendly person? (?)
10. They have _____ money that they don't know how to spend it. (+)
11. It wasn't _____ good idea to leave the windows open. (-)
12. Why are there _____ people in the park today? (?)
13. It was _____ relief to finally finish the project. (+)
14. We didn't expect the exam to be _____ difficult. (-)
15. Is the water really _____ cold, or are you just exaggerating? (?)

Answer Key

1. **so** (Adjective 'complicated')
2. **such a** (Noun phrase 'long way')
3. **so much** (Quantity/Uncountable 'food')
4. **such an** (Noun phrase 'exciting game' - starts with vowel)
5. **such** (Uncountable noun phrase 'bad weather')
6. **so much** (Quantity/Uncountable 'noise')
7. **so** (Adverb 'quickly')
8. **so** (Expression 'so long' for time)
9. **such a** (Singular noun phrase 'friendly person')
10. **so much** (Quantity/Uncountable 'money')
11. **such a** (Singular noun phrase 'good idea')
12. **so many** (Quantity/Countable 'people')
13. **such a** (Singular noun 'relief')
14. **so** (Adjective 'difficult')
15. **so** (Adjective 'cold')