

## UNIT 17

## prefer ... to

'prefer... to' is used in a similar way as 'would rather... than' in Topic 16. It is used to show a preference of one choice between two given choices.

### Example A

I think the red balloon looks best. The blue balloon looks nice too.

### Answer

I **prefer** the red balloon **to** the blue one.

### **NOTE:**

*When both choices refer to similar nouns (in this case, balloons), remember to mention the noun once only. The second time the noun is referred to, use 'one'.*

### Example B

Father hates to jog. He does not mind swimming as much.

### Answer

Father **prefers** swimming **to** jogging.

### **NOTE:**

*In the case of verbs, 'prefer' is usually followed by a verb in the continuous form (in this case 'swimming'). The word 'jog' in the given sentence is changed to 'jogging' as the sentence would not make sense otherwise.*

## EXERCISE

For each question, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s).

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1. Neela enjoys dancing more than she enjoys swimming.  
\_\_\_\_\_ prefers \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
2. Tessa would choose almonds over peanuts anytime  
\_\_\_\_\_ prefers \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
3. Although Mother doesn't mind orchids, she is more partial to roses.  
\_\_\_\_\_ prefers \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
4. The king thinks his daughter is a better candidate for the throne than his son.  
\_\_\_\_\_ prefers \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- \*5. The hare did not want to admit that the tortoise beat him in a race. He would rather shave off his tail than admit it.  
\_\_\_\_\_ preferred \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
6. Diane is more in favour of Rome although she doesn't mind London as a vacation destination either.  
\_\_\_\_\_ prefers \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
7. I think travelling is full of delights but home is better for its comforts.  
\_\_\_\_\_ prefer \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
8. I'll buy the red bag as it looks more striking than the green one.  
\_\_\_\_\_ prefer \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
9. Uncle Arthur takes coffee but I know he would rather have tea.  
\_\_\_\_\_ prefers \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- \*10. The crowd likes this gladiator better than the other one because he is stronger and more skilful.  
\_\_\_\_\_ prefers \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_