

UNIT 29 as if, as though, as ... so

1. 'as if' is used when the subject in a sentence looks or acts like another.

Example A

You look pale. You look like you have just seen a ghost.

Answer

You look pale **as if** you have just seen a ghost.

NOTE:

Here is a typical example of 'as if' being used to join two sentences. Usually, you do not need to change any of the tenses. Sometimes, you may have to change the order of the information given.

2. 'as though' is used in the same way as 'as if'. It is used when one subject is like another.

Example B

She acts so haughtily. It seems ice does not melt in her mouth.

Answer

She acts so haughtily **as though** ice does not melt in her mouth.

NOTE:

Like in 'as if', there are usually no change of tense in an 'as though' sentence. Here, 'it seems' is excluded from the answer as 'as though' has taken its place.

3. 'as...so' is used when something is done because it has been in some way ordered by a higher authority.

Example C

I mopped the floor because Father asked me to.

Answer

As Father asked me to mop the floor, **so** I did.

NOTE:

When answering 'as...so' questions, you sometimes have to switch the order of the information given. Here, 'mopped' is changed to 'to mop' in the answer and the word 'did' is also included. These are done so as to convey the correct meaning.

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. He plays soccer like a professional.

_____ as if

2. Jacky is misbehaving. Jacky seems to be deliberately trying to get into trouble.

_____ as though

3. Steve pretended to speak like a police officer

_____ as if

4. The King decreed this so it must be carried out.

As _____ so

*5. Stop hopping around. You are not three years old anymore.

_____ as though

6. The servant will follow the orders of his master.

As _____ so

7. The way Penelope behaves one would think she does not have a care in the world.

_____ as if

8. We must proceed carefully. We must proceed like we think the house is haunted.

_____ as though

9. A hurricane seemed to have swept through the town

_____ as though

*10. Are we experiencing winter? Why is she dressed like that?

_____ as if