

# So and Such in English

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So and such can be used in several different ways in English sentences.

## SO and SUCH in exclamations

Both words can add emphasis to your sentences, to make the meaning stronger. In the exclamations, we use the formula **so + adjective** and **such + adjective + noun** (singular or plural):

- It's **such** a nice day! (noun)
- It's **so** beautiful outside... (adjective)
- He's **such** a generous man. (noun)
- He's **so** generous. (adjective)

The meaning is similar to words like 'very' or 'really':

- The music is **very** loud! = The music is **so** loud!
- She's in a **very** bad mood today. = She's in **such** a bad mood today.

## Let's take a closer look at So and Such:

### SO

As an adverb, **so** is similar to **such** and expresses an exclamation. It is often associated with an adjective, a quantifier (= a quantity word like *many, much...*), or a verb, and has different meanings according to the context:

- I'm **so** glad to see you.
- I'm not **so** sure.
- We had **so** much work!
- You mustn't worry **so**.

So is also used to express the consequence:

- I fel tired so I went to bed.

We use so to express similarity:

- I'm tired - So am I.
- Sam likes soccer. - So do I.
- Kevin lives in Germany. → So does Tina.

So allows you to refer to previous statements or events:

- I think so.
- Who says so?
- So... ?
- So what's the problem?
- So we can't go after all.

So helps to avoid repetitions:

- We arrived early and **so** did he.
- Tony speaks Spanish and **so** does his friend.

So can refer to a size, a length, an unspecified quantity:

- The table is about **so** high.
- They pay us **so** much a week.

So can also refer to a way of doing things:

- Hold the pen (like) **so**.
- The helmet is **so** constructed **as** to absorb most of the impact.

Finally, so can be used with quantifiers: *much, many, little, few, often, rarely...* This makes it possible to know a quantity, an amount of something:

- Sarah earns **so** much money!
- You have had **so** much to drink!
- There was **so** little damage after the storm.
- I'm surprised that **so** few students turned up today.

The constructions **So... that** and **such ... that** are used to express purpose and consequence:

*So + adjective + that*

- The hotel was **so comfortable that** we decided to stay another night.
- Give me some money **so (that)** I can buy some eggs.
- I took a taxi **so that** I could get there on time.
- His handwriting is **so bad (that)** it's illegible.

The expression **so as to**, more formal, also expresses the purpose:

- We came back early **so as to** avoid the bad weather.

Such

We use Such in front of names that can be counted in the singular, and in front of nouns that can be counted in the plural and uncountables nouns.

*Such (a/an)* expresses an exclamation or admiration and is used differently according to the context:

- It's such a surprise to see you here.
- Such situations are common.
- He's changed his mind again. Oh well, such is life.

**Idioms with Such**

*Such ... as* can be used to make a comparison :

- I've never seen such a fast car as yours.

We use **such as** to present one or a list of examples of what we mention (it is mainly used in writing):

- How can you forget a movie **such as** 'Star Wars'?
- I love action video games, **such as** Assassin's Creed, GTA or Resident Evil.
- There are many ways to do it. - **Such as**?

We use **as such** with a negative to indicate that a word or expression is not a very accurate description of the real situation. It can also be used after a noun to indicate that this thing is being considered alone, separately from other things or factors:

- He's not an expert **as such**, but ...
- You're a member of the staff and **as such** you can get coffee for free.

**Such and such** is used to refer to a particular type of person or similar thing, regardless. **Such and such** is placed in front of the nouns:

- Then she said the band was coming to Glasgow on such and such a date.
- If you do **such and such** a job, you will become rich.

*Les constructions **So ... that** et **such ... that** sont utilisés pour exprimer le but et la conséquence: **Such + adjectif + nom + that** (se traduit par tel... que - le that est optionnel):*

The constructions **So... that** and **such ... that** are used to express the purpose and consequence: **Such + adjective + noun + that** (*that* is optional):

- It's **such** a good film (that) I'm going to see it again.
- Paul has **such** a big house (that) I got lost on the way to the kitchen.