

### 3 like versus as



- 1 When *like* is used as a preposition, it is always followed by a noun. It means *similar to/the same as/for example*.

*I look like my mother.*

*They have so many animals. Their house is like a zoo.*

*'What star sign are you?' 'I'm Gemini, like you.'*

*'You're stupid.' 'Why do you say things like that?'*

*Their children are loud and bossy. I don't like kids like that.*

- 2 *As* can also be used as a preposition followed by a noun. It expresses the job, function or use of a person or a thing.

*I worked as a waitress over the holidays.*

*We use our garage as a storage place.*

*She went to a party dressed as a nun.*

- 3 When *as* is used as a conjunction, it is followed by a subject and a verb.

*Do as I say and sit down.*

*Don't eat and speak at the same time, as my mother used to say.*

*As you know, we're leaving tomorrow at 10.00.*

Notice the use of *as* in *as usual*.

*Pat and Peter arrived late, as usual.*

- 4 We also use *as* in comparisons.

*My daughter is as tall as me.*

*She works in the same office as me.*

Put *as* or *like* into each gap.

- I'll be back in touch \_\_\_\_\_ soon \_\_\_\_\_ possible.
- This wine tastes \_\_\_\_\_ vinegar!
- I've known Andy for years. He went to the same school \_\_\_\_\_ I did.
- My sister's a teacher, \_\_\_\_\_ me.
- 'We had a new teacher today called Mary.'  
'What was she \_\_\_\_\_?'
- Who do I look \_\_\_\_\_, my mother or my father?
- She really annoys me. I can't stand people \_\_\_\_\_ her.
- I'll see you tomorrow at 11.00, \_\_\_\_\_ usual.
- It's July and the weather's awful! It's \_\_\_\_\_ winter!
- I need to buy all sorts of things \_\_\_\_\_ socks, shirts and knickers.
- My wife has found a job \_\_\_\_\_ a personal assistant.

l Dave drinks \_\_\_\_\_ a fish! I've never seen anyone drink as much.

m My brother has a car \_\_\_\_\_ yours.

n Don't touch anything. Leave everything \_\_\_\_\_ it is.

o It's freezing. My feet are \_\_\_\_\_ blocks of ice.



### Test your grammar

- 1 In the following sentences, is *like* used as a verb or a preposition?
- How do you *like* your coffee, black or white?
  - I'm just *like* my father. We're both tall and thin with black hair and brown eyes.
  - Don't you think that Pedro looks *like* Tom Cruise?
  - What would you *like* to do tonight?
  - 'We went to that new restaurant last night.'  
'Really? What was it *like*?'
  - 'How do you tie a tie?'  
'Let me show you. *Like* this.'
  - 'Shall we go home now?'  
'If you *like*.'
- 2 Match a sentence with a picture.
- They stopped to talk to each other.
  - They stopped talking to each other.

