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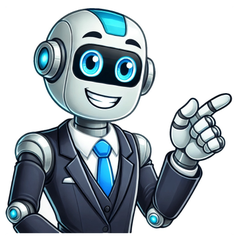

Have you noticed that some native speakers use the word “like” way too much when speaking? “Like” is a word that has lots of meanings, but these are rarely taught to English language learners. Next time you watch a movie or TV episode in English, see if you can notice how often they use the word “like.” In this blog post, we’ll look at some common uses of the word like and some examples. Some native speakers use “like” a lot when speaking. In this case, “like” is just a filler word! A filler word has no meaning on its own. It’s something we just say to connect the speech. We might also say it when we’re thinking while talking. “Umm..” “Ah…” “Well…” “So…” are all filler words. They don’t have any significant meaning on their own. You’ll be familiar with the meaning of “to enjoy” or “to love” something. I like football. I like eating chocolate. I like to swim. You can follow it with a noun, as in “I like winter.” “Like” can also be followed by the verb, either in the gerund form (I like eating chocolate) or in the infinitive (I like to swim). Both ways are fine. But it would be wrong just to have a verb follow “like.” “I like swim” is grammatically incorrect. He looks just like you! Here, like is used to compare two things that are similar. For example, a child might look similar to his parents. Then you might say, “He looks just like you.” It’s like 3 km away. Here, like means roughly or approximately. It’s not exactly three kilometers away, but around that. A second common use of the word like is in reported speech. She said she went to the park, and a dog chased her. He replied that must have been scary. That is an example of a reported speech. You’re quoting someone. But in a conversation, you’d be more likely to hear native speakers say: She was like, “I went to the park, and I got chased by a dog” then he was like, “That’s so scary!” This is the same as: She said, “I went to the park, and a dog chased me.” He replied, “That must have been so scary!” The reporting verb “said” has been replaced with “like.” This is a very common use. You wouldn’t use it in writing, but in casual speech, it’s perfectly fine. Remember at the beginning of this post, “like” is a filler word? At the same time, it can be used to convey uncertainty. Take a look at the following: I was, like, going to ring the doctor, and then I didn’t. Here, “like” is used to make the sentence a little less certain. It makes the sentence less forceful and a little more casual. You can certainly say the sentence without “like” and covey the same thing. When you use “like” too much in this manner, it might sound like this. I was, like, going to ring the doctor, and I didn’t. I was thinking, like, what if there was a long wait. I knew I didn’t, like, have the time. Once again, you might hear native speakers use “like” a lot as a filler word. It’s not recommended to use “like” in this matter too much because it could annoy the listener and make you come across as unsure or even unintelligent. In general, if you want to appear more confident and professional, you’d want to minimize the use of filler words in your speech. Using “like” may make the speaker sound a bit more unsure about what they’re saying. See how many times you can hear the word “like” used in a movie or drama. You’ll most likely find out that a lot of teenagers and young people tend to use “like” as a filler. Also, try to pay attention to what effect it has on someone’s speech. Remember, we don’t use the word “like” as a filler in writing as much as we use it in speech. Also found in: Thesaurus, Medical, Acronyms, Idioms, Encyclopedia, Wikipedia.Related to like: LinkedIn (līk)v.tr.1. To find pleasant or attractive; enjoy: Do you like ice cream? I like your style.2. a. To want to have: I would like some coffee.b. To prefer: How would you like your coffee—with sugar or without?3. To feel about; regard: How do you like these new theater seats?4. To believe or predict that (a certain competitor) will win a contest: Which team do you like in tonight's game?5. To perform well under (a given condition) or using (a given feature): This car does not like cold weather. The engine does not like enriched fuel.6. Archaic To be pleasing to.v.intr.1. To have an inclination or a preference: If you like, we can meet you there.n. Something that is liked; a preference: made a list of his likes and dislikes.Idiom: like it or not No matter how one might feel: Like it or not, we have to get up early tomorrow. (līk)prep.1. Possessing the characteristics of; resembling closely; similar to: Your house is like mine.2. a. In the typical manner of: It's not like you to take offense.b. In the same way as: lived like royalty.3. Inclined or disposed to: felt like running away.4. As if the probability exists for: looks like a bad year for farmers.5. Such as; for example: saved things like old newspapers and pieces of string.adj. Possessing the same or almost the same characteristics; similar: on this and like occasions.adv.1. In the manner of being; as if. Used as an intensifier of action: worked like hell; ran like crazy.2. Informal Probably; likely: Like as not she'll change her mind.3. Nearly; approximately: The price is more like 1,000 dollars.4. Nonstandard Used to provide emphasis or to focus attention on something: Let's like talk about this for a minute. It's like so crowded you can't move.n.1. One similar to or like another. Used with the: was subject to coughs, asthma, and the like.2. often likes Informal An equivalent or similar person or thing; an equal or match: I've never seen the likes of this before. We'll never see his like again.conj. Usage Problem 1. In the same way that; as: To dance like she does requires great discipline.2. As if: It looks like we'll finish on time.Idioms: be like Informal To say or utter. Used chiefly in oral narration: And he's like, "Leave me alone!" like so In the manner indicated: You apply the paint like so.[Middle English, from like, similar (from Old English gelīc Old Norse līkr) and from like, similarly (from Old English gelīce, from gelīc, similar); see līk- in Indo-European roots.]Usage Note: They don't make them like they used to. I remember it like it was yesterday. As these familiar examples show, like is often used as a conjunction meaning "as" or "as if," particularly in speech. While writers since Chaucer's time have used like as a conjunction, the usage today has a somewhat informal or conversational flavor. Language critics and writing handbooks have condemned the conjunctive use of like for more than a century, and in accordance with this tradition, like is usually edited out of more formal prose. This is easy enough to do, since as and as if stand as synonyms: Sales of new models rose as (not like) we expected them to. He ran as if (not like) his life depended on it. · Like is acceptable at all levels as a conjunction when used with verbs such as feel, look, seem, sound, and taste: It looks like we are in for a rough winter. Constructions in which the verb is not expressed, such as He took to politics like a duck to water, are also acceptable, especially since in these cases like can be viewed as a preposition. See Usage Notes at as1, together.Our Living Language Along with be all and go, the construction combining be and like has become a common way of introducing quotations in informal conversation, especially among younger people: "So I'm like, 'Let's get out of here!'" As with go, this use of like can also announce a brief imitation of another person's behavior, often elaborated with facial expressions and gestures. It can also summarize a past attitude or reaction (instead of presenting direct speech). If a woman says "I'm like, 'Get lost buddy!'" she may or may not have used those actual words to tell the offending man off. In fact, she may not have said anything to him but instead may be summarizing her attitude at the time by stating what she might have said, had she chosen to speak. See Note at go1 (līk) also liked (līkt)aux.v. Chiefly Southern US Used with a past infinitive or with to and a simple past form to indicate being just on the point of or coming near to having done something in the past: "I like to a split a gut laughin'." "It seemed as how nobody had thought about measurin' the width of the bridge's openin', and we like to didn't make it through" (Dictionary of American Regional English).[Middle English liken, to compare, from like, similar; see like2.]Our Living Language In certain Southern varieties of American English there are two grammatically distinct usages of the word like to mean "was on the verge of." In both, either like or liked is possible. In the first, the word is followed by a past infinitive: We like (or liked) to have drowned. The ancestor of this construction was probably the adjective like in the sense "likely, on the verge of," as in She's like to get married again. The adjective was reinterpreted by some speakers as a verb, and since like to and liked to are indistinguishable in normal speech, the past tense came to be marked on the following infinitive for clarity. From this developed a second way of expressing the same concept: the use of like to with a following finite past tense verb form, as in I like to died when I saw that. This construction appears odd at first because it ostensibly contains an ungrammatical infinitive, to died, but that is not the case at all. What has happened is that like to here has been reinterpreted as an adverb meaning almost. In fact, it is quite common to see the phrase spelled as a single word, in the pronunciation spelling liketa.American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fifth Edition. Copyright © 2016 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. (laɪk) adj (prenominal) similar; resemblingprep1. similar to; similarly to; in the manner of: acting like a maniac; he's so like his father. 2. used correlatively to express similarity in certain proverbs: like mother, like daughter. 3. such as: there are lots of ways you might amuse yourself — like taking a long walk, for instance. adv4. a dialect word for likely5. not standard as it were: often used as a parenthetic filler: there was this policeman just staring at us, like. 6. be like ... informal used to introduce direct speech or nonverbal communication: I was like, ‘You're kidding!’. conj7. not standard as though; as if: you look like you've just seen a ghost. 8. in the same way as; in the same way that: she doesn't dance like you do. n9. the equal or counterpart of a person or thing, esp one respected or prized: compare like with like; her like will never be seen again. 10. the like similar things: dogs, foxes, and the like. 11. the likes of the like of people or things similar to (someone or something specified): we don't want the likes of you around here. [shortened from Old English gelīc; compare Old Norse glīkr and līkr like]Usage: The use of like to mean such as was formerly thought to be undesirable in formal writing, but has now become acceptable. It was also thought that as rather than like should be used to mean in the same way that, but now both as and like are acceptable: they hunt and catch fish as/like their ancestors used to. The use of look like and seem like before a clause, although very common, is thought by many people to be incorrect or non-standard: it looks as though he won't come (not it looks like he won't come) (laɪk) vb1. (tr) to find (something) enjoyable or agreeable or find it enjoyable or agreeable (to do something): he likes boxing; he likes to hear music. 3. (tr) to prefer or wish (to do something): we would like you to go. 4. (tr) to feel towards; consider; regard: how did she like it?. 5. (intr) to feel disposed or inclined; choose; wish6. (tr) archaic to please; agree with: it likes me not to go. n (usually plural) a favourable feeling, desire, preference, etc (esp in the phrase likes and dislikes)[Old English līcian; related to Old Norse līka, Dutch lijken]Collins English Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged, 12th Edition 2014 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2014 (laɪk) adj. (Poetic) lik•er, lik•est, prep., adv., conj., n., interj. adj. 1. of the same form, appearance, kind, character, amount, etc.: I cannot remember a like instance. 2. corresponding or agreeing in general or in some noticeable respect; similar; analogous: drawing, painting, and like arts. prep. 5. similarly to; in the manner characteristic of: She works like a beaver. 6. resembling; similar to: Your necklace is like mine. 7. characteristic of: It would be like him to forget our appointment. 8. as if there is promise of; indicative of: It looks like rain. 9. disposed or inclined to (usu. prec. by feel): to feel like going to bed. 10. (used correlatively to indicate similarity through relationship): like father, like son. 11. (used to establish an intensifying, often facetious, comparison): ran like hell; sleeps like a log. adv. 12. nearly; approximately: The house is more like 40 years old. 13. likely or probably: Like enough he'll come with us. conj. 14. in the same way as; just as; as: It happened like you said it would. 15. as if: He acted like he was afraid. 16. Informal. (used esp. after forms ofbeto introduce reported speech or thought): She's like, "I don't believe it," and I'm like, "No, it's true!" n. 17. a similar or comparable person or thing, or persons or things; counterpart, match, or equal (usu. prec. by a possessive adjective or the): No one has seen her like in a long time. 18. kind; sort (usu. prec. by a possessive adjective): I despise toadies and their like. 19. the like, something of a similar nature: They grow oranges, lemons, and the like. interj. 20. Informal. (used preceding a WH-word, an answer to a question, or other information in a sentence on which the speaker wishes to focus attention): Like, why didn't you write to me? The music was, like, really great. Idioms: 1. like to or liked to, Nonstandard. was on the verge of or came close to (doing something): The poor kid like to froze. 2. the like or likes of, the equal of. [1150–1200; Middle English lic, lik < Old Norse līkr, reduced form of glīkr; see alike] usage: like 1 as a conjunction meaning “as, in the same way as” (Many shoppers study the food ads like brokers study market reports) or “as if” (It looks like it will rain) has been used for nearly 500 years and by many distinguished literary and intellectual figures. Since the mid-19th century there have been objections to these uses. Nevertheless, such uses are almost universal today in all but the most formal speech and writing, in which as, as if, and as though are more commonly used than like: The general accepted full responsibility for the incident, as any professional soldier would. Many of the bohemians lived as if (or as though) there were no tomorrow. The strong strictures against the use of like as a conjunction have resulted in the occasional hypercorrect use of as as a preposition where like is idiomatic: She looks as a sympathetic person. See also as. like2 (laɪk) v. liked, lik•ing, n. v.t. 1. to take pleasure in; find agreeable or congenial to one's taste: to like opera. 2. to regard with favor; have a kindly or friendly feeling for (a person, group, etc.). 3. to wish or want: I'd like a piece of cake. v.i. 4. to feel inclined; wish: Stay if you like. 5. Archaic. to suit the tastes or wishes; please. n. 6. Usu., likes. the things a person likes. [before 900; Middle English; Old English līcian, c. Old Saxon līkōn, Old High German līhhēn, Old Norse līka, Gothic leikan to please; akin to alike, like1] -like a suffixal use of like 1 in the formation of adjectives: childlike. Random House Kernerman Webster's College Dictionary, © 2010 K Dictionaries Ltd. Copyright 2005, 1997, 1991 by Random House, Inc. All rights reserved. - Comes from Germanic likam, "appearance, body, form"; the verb came from likojam, which, as like, originally meant "please."See also related terms for please.Farlex Trivia Dictionary. © 2012 Farlex, Inc. All rights reserved.1. 'like'If you like someone or something, you find them pleasant or attractive.She's a nice girl, I like her.Very few people liked the idea.Be Careful!Don't use a progressive form of like. Don't say, for example, 'I am liking peanuts'. Say 'I like peanuts'.You can use like in front of an -ing form to say that you enjoy an activity.I just don't like being in crowds.You can add very much to emphasize how much you like someone or something, or how much you enjoy an activity.I like swimming very much.Be Careful!You must put very much after the object, not after like. Don't say, for example, 'I like very much swimming'.If someone asks you if you like something, you can say 'Yes, I do.' Don't say 'Yes, I like.''Do you like walking?' – 'Yes I do, I love it.'Be Careful!Don't use 'like' immediately in front of a clause beginning with 'when' or 'if'. For example, don't say 'I like when I can go home early'. Say 'I like it when I can go home early'.The guests don't like it when they can't use the pool.I'd like it if we were friends again.2. 'would like'You say 'Would you like...?' when you are offering something to someone.Would you like some coffee?Be Careful!Don't say 'Do you like some coffee?'You say 'Would you like...' followed by a to-infinitive when you are inviting someone to do something.Would you like to meet him?Be Careful!Don't use an -ing form after 'Would you like...'. Don't say, for example, 'Would you like meeting him?'You can say 'I'd like...' when asking for something in a shop or café.I'd like some apples, please.You say 'I'd like you to...' when you are telling someone to do something in a fairly polite way.I'd like you to tell them where I am. – as – the way1. used as conjunctionsYou can use like, as, or the way as conjunctions when you are comparing one person's behaviour or appearance to another's. In the formal style, you can say 'He walked to work every day, like his father had done', 'He walked to work every day, as his father had done', or 'He walked to work every day, the way his father had done'.I never behave like she does.They were people who spoke and thought as he did.Start lending things, the way people did in the war.2. used as prepositionsLike and as can be prepositions, but their meaning is not usually the same. For example, if you do something like a particular kind of person, you do it the way that kind of person would do it, although you are not that kind of person.If you do something as a particular kind of person, you are that kind of person.Over the summer she worked as a waitress.I can only speak as a married man without children. – dislikeThe verbs and expressions in the following list are all used to indicate how much someone likes or dislikes something. They are arranged from 'like most' to 'dislike most':adoreShe adored her parents and would do anything to please them.love, be crazy about, be mad about, be a great fan ofWe loved the food so much, especially the fish dishes.He's still crazy about both his work and his hobbies.She's not as mad about sport as I am.I am a great fan of rave music.like, be fond of, be keen onWhat music do you like best?She was especially fond of a little girl named Betsy.Both companies were keen on a merger.don't mindI hope you don't mind me calling in like this, without an appointment.dislikeWe don't serve liver often because so many people dislike it.hateShe hated hospitals and didn't like the idea of having an operation.abhor, can't bear, can't stand, detest, loatheHe was a man who abhorred violence and was deeply committed to reconciliation.I can't bear people who make judgements and label me.I can't stand that man and his arrogance.Jean detested being photographed.The two men loathe each other.Collins COBUILD English Usage © HarperCollins Publishers 1992, 2004, 2011, 2012Past participle: likedGerund: likingImperativePresentPreteritePresent ContinuousPresent PerfectPast ContinuousPast PerfectFutureFuture PerfectFuture ContinuousPresent Perfect ContinuousFuture Perfect ContinuousPast Perfect ContinuousConditionalPast ConditionalCollins English Verb Tables © HarperCollins Publishers 2011 Noun1.like - a similar kind; "dogs, foxes, and the like", "we don't want the likes of you around here"kind, sort, form, variety - a category of things distinguished by some common characteristic or quality; "sculpture is a form of art"; "what kinds of desserts are there?"2.like - a kind of person; "We'll not see his like again"; "I can't tolerate people of his ilk"kind, sort, form, variety - a category of things distinguished by some common characteristic or quality; "sculpture is a form of art"; "what kinds of desserts are there?"Verb1.like - prefer or wish to do something; "Do you care to try this dish?"; "Would you like to come along to the movies?"please - be the will of or have the will (to); "he could do many things if he pleased"desire, want - feel or have a desire for; want strongly; "I want to go home now"; "I want my own room"2.like - find enjoyable or agreeable; "I like jogging"; "She likes to read Russian novels"cotton - take a liking to; "cotton to something"prefer - like better; value more highly; "Some people prefer camping to staying in hotels"; "We prefer sleeping outside"care for - have a liking, fondness, or taste (for)love, enjoy - get pleasure from; "I love cooking"dislike - have or feel a dislike or distaste for; "I really dislike this salesman"3.like - be fond of; "I like my nephews"4.like - feel about or towards; consider, evaluate, or regard; "How did you like the President's speech last night?"consider, regard, view, reckon, see - deem to be; "She views this quite differently from me"; "I consider her to be shallow"; "I don't see the situation quite as negatively as you do"5.like - want to have; "I'd like a beer now!"desire, want - feel or have a desire for; want strongly; "I want to go home now"; "I want my own room"Adj.1.like - resembling or similar; having the same or some of the same characteristics; often used in combination; "suits of like design"; "a limited circle of like minds"; "members of the cat family have like dispositions"; "as like as two peas in a pod"; "doglike devotion"; "a dreamlike quality"same - closely similar or comparable in kind or quality or quantity or degree; "curtains the same color as the walls"; "two girls of the same age"; "mother and son have the same blue eyes"; "animals of the same species"; "the same rules as before"; "two boxes having the same dimensions"; "the same day next year"2.like - equal in amount or value; "like amounts"; "equivalent amounts"; "the same amount"; "gave one six blows and the other a like number"; "the same number"equal - having the same quantity, value, or measure as another; "on equal terms"; "all men are equal before the law"unlike - not equal in amount; "they distributed unlike (or unequal) sums to the various charities"3.like - having the same or similar characteristics; "all politicians are alike"; "they looked utterly alike"; "friends are generally alike in background and taste"4.like - conforming in every respect; "boxes with corresponding dimensions"; "the like period of the preceding year"comparable, correspondingsame - closely similar or comparable in kind or quality or quantity or degree; "curtains the same color as the walls"; "two girls of the same age"; "mother and son have the same blue eyes"; "animals of the same species"; "the same rules as before"; "two boxes having the same dimensions"; "the same day next year"Based on WordNet 3.0, Farlex clipart collection. © 2003-2012 Princeton University, Farlex Inc.1adjective1. similar to, same as, allied to, equivalent to, parallel to, resembling, identical to, alike, corresponding to, comparable to, akin to, approximating, analogous to, cognate to She's a great friend; we are like sisters. similar to different, contrasted, unlike, opposite, dissimilar, divergent2verb1. enjoy, love, adore (informal), delight in, go for, dig (slang), relish, savour, revel in, be fond of, be keen on, be partial to, have a preference for, have a weakness for He likes baseball. enjoy hate, dislike, loathe, despise, detest, abominate2. admire, approve of, appreciate, prize, take to, esteem, cherish, hold dear, take a shine to (informal), think well of I like the way this book is set out. admire hate, dislike, loathe, despise, detest, abominateCollins Thesaurus of the English Language – Complete and Unabridged 2nd Edition. 2002 © HarperCollins Publishers 1995, 2002verb adjective The American Heritage® Roget's Thesaurus. Copyright © 2013, 2014 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. استمطعحبشيه، متيل، تطير كثقمتل mít rádjakolíbit sejakýněco podobnéholidesomsynes omligesomlignendemögenwiegleichgefallengern habensσανσυμπαθώφαίνομαιαρέσωμ'αρέσειαmihaviinklinonkielkvazaŭcomogustarquerersemejanteigualpitääkuinkutenmillainenniinkuaimercommepareilpareil àplaire àe-î/e-n sem er jafngóður/einseins ogeins, líkurlíkanjóta e-scomepiaceresimilevolerepiacere akākaut kas līdzīgslīdzīgilīdzīgspatiktalshouden vanzoalsleuk vindenlijkend oplikesomsynes omhvordanlikcomogostargostar degostosemelhantekакнравитьсяпохожийитапаковшеобразнонiečo podobnéniekto podobnýhotetiimeti radkotpodobengibihoşlanmaksevmekzevk almakaynı1 [laɪk]B. PREP1. (= similar to) → comowhat's he like? → ¿cómo es (él)?you know what she's like → ya la conoces, ya sabes cómo eswhat's Spain like? → ¿cómo es España?what's the weather like? → ¿qué tiempo hace?a house like mine → una casa como la mía, una casa parecida a la míaI found one like it → encontré uno parecido or igualshe was like a sister to me → fue (como) una hermana para míwe heard a noise like someone sneezing → nos pareció oír a alguien estornudar, oímos como un estornudoI never saw anything like it → nunca he visto cosa igual or semejantewhat's he like as a teacher? → ¿qué tal es como profesor?to be like sth/sb → parecerse a algo/algn, ser parecido a algo/algnyou're so like your father (in looks, character) → te pareces mucho a tu padre, eres muy parecido a tu padrethis portrait is not like him → en este retrato no parece élit was more like a prison than a house → se parecía más a una cárcel que a una casathe figure is more like 300 → la cifra se acerca más bien a 300why can't you be more like your sister? → ¿por qué no aprendes de tu hermana?that's more like it! → ¡así está mejor!, ¡así me gusta!there's nothing like real silk → no hay nada como la seda naturalsomething like that → algo así, algo por el estiloI was thinking of giving her something like a doll → pensaba en regalarle algo así como una muñeca, pensaba en regalarle una muñeca o algo por el estilothey earn something like £50,000 a year → ganan alrededor de 50.000 libras al añopeople like that can't be trusted → esa clase or ese tipo de gente no es de fiarsee also feel B3see also look B4see also smell C1see also sound 1 C2.1see also taste C2. (= typical of) it's not like him to do that → no es propio de él hacer esoisn't it just like him! → ¡no cambia!, ¡eso es típico de él! (it's) just like you to grab the last cake! → ¡qué típico que tomes or (Sp) cojas tú el último pastelito!2 [laɪk]A. VT2. (= feel about) how do you like Cadiz? → ¿qué te parece Cádiz?how do you like it here? → ¿qué te parece este sitio?how would you like to go to the cinema? → ¿te apetece or (LAm) se te antoja ir al cine?how would you like it if somebody did the same to you? → ¿cómo te sentirías si alguien te hiciera lo mismo?how do you like that! I've been here five years and he doesn't know my name → ¡qué te parece!, llevo cinco años trabajando aquí y no sabe ni cómo me llamoB. VI → quereras you like → como quieras"shall we go now?" - "if you like" → -¿nos vamos ya? -si quieresC. N likes → gustos mpllikes and dislikes → aficiones fpl y fobias or manías, cosas fpl que gustan y cosas que nohe has distinct likes and dislikes where food is concerned → con respecto a la comida tiene claras preferencias or sabe muy bien lo que le gusta y lo que no lo (le gusta)Verb"Gustar" better avoided• While gustar is one of the main ways of translating like, its use is not always appropriate. Used to refer to people, it may imply sexual attraction. Instead, use expressions like caer bien or parecer/resultar simpático/agradable. These expressions work like gustar and need an indirect object: I like Francis very much Francis me cae muy bien or me parece muy simpático or agradable She likes me, but that's all (A ella) le caigo bien, pero nada másLike + verb• Translate to like doing sth and to like to do sth using gustar + ((INFINITIVE)): Doctors don't like having to go out to visit patients at night A los médicos no les gusta tener que salir a visitar pacientes por la noche My brother likes to rest after lunch A mi hermano le gusta descansar después de comer• Translate to like sb doing sth and to like sb to do sth using gustar + que + ((SUBJUNCTIVE)): My wife likes me to do the shopping A mi mujer le gusta que haga la compra I don't like Irene living so far away No me gusta que Irene viva tan lejos"How do you like...?"• Use qué + parecer to translate how do/did you like when asking someone's opinion: How do you like this coat? ¿Qué te parece este abrigo? How did you like the concert? ¿Qué te ha parecido el concierto?• But use cómo + gustar when using how do you like more literally: How do you like your steak? ¿Cómo le gusta la carne?Would like• When translating would like, use querer with requests and offers and gustar to talk about preferences and wishes: Would you like a glass of water? ¿Quiere un vaso de agua? What would you like me to do about the tickets? ¿Qué quieres que haga respecto a los billetes? I'd very much like to go to Spain this summer Me gustaría mucho ir a España este veranoNOTE Literal translations of I'd like are better avoided when making requests in shops and restaurants. Use expressions like the following: I'd like steak and chips ¿Me pone un filete con patatas fritas?, (Yo) quiero un filete con patatas fritasCollins Spanish Dictionary - Complete and Unabridged 8th Edition 2005 © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1971, 1988 © HarperCollins Publishers 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2000, 2003, 2005 [ˈlaɪk] vt [+ person] (= be well disposed to) → aimer bienI like Paul, but I don't want to go out with him → J'aime bien Paul, mais je ne veux pas sortir avec lui.I can't think why Grace doesn't like meBUT Je ne comprends pas pourquoi Grace ne m'aime pas.I didn't realise she liked himBUT Je ne me suis pas rendu compte qu'il lui plaisait. [+ thing, activity] → aimerI don't like mustard → Je n'aime pas la moutarde.That's one of the things I like about you → C'est l'une des choses que j'aime chez toi., C'est l'une des choses qui me plaisent chez toi.I like the way you ... → j'aime bien la façon dont tu ...I've been looking at the cookery book. I like the way it is set out → J'ai regardé le livre de cuisine. J'aime bien la façon dont c'est mis en page.to like doing sth → aimer faire qchI like riding → J'aime monter à cheval.to like to do sth → aimer faire qchI like to go to bed early during the week → J'aime me coucher tôt en semaine.not to like sb doing sth → ne pas aimer que qn fasse qchShe doesn't like him working so hard → Elle n'aime pas qu'il travaille si dur.His wife didn't like him drinking so much → Sa femme n'aimait pas qu'il boive tant.like it or not → que cela nous plaise ou non (= want) I'd like ..., I would like ... → je voudrais ...I'd like an orange juice, please → Je voudrais un jus d'orange, s'il vous plaît.would you like ... → voulez-vous ...Would you like some coffee? → Voulez-vous du café?Would you like a coffee? → Voulez-vous un café?Here's your change. Would you like a bag? → Voici votre monnaie. Voulez-vous un sac?I'd like to ... → j'aimerais ...I'd like to go to Russia one day → J'aimerais aller en Russie un jour.I'd like to wash my hands → J'aimerais me laver les mains.If you don't mind, I'd like to go home → Si cela ne vous fait rien, j'aimerais rentrer.Would you like to go for a walk? → Voulez-vous aller faire une promenade? (= wish) → voulioirif you like (= if you prefer) → si vous voulez (or si tu veux)You can stay here if you like → Vous pouvez rester ici si vous voulez.You can have whatever you like → Vous pouvez avoir tout ce que vous voulez. (= if you want to put it that way)This is more like a down payment, or a deposit, if you like → Il s'agit plus d'un acompte, ou d'une caution, si vous voulez. adj (= similar) → similaire n the like(s) of whichan epidemic the likes of which has never been seen → une épidémie comme on n'en a jamais vuadvances the like of which we previously only dreamed of → des avancées dont on ne pouvait que rêver auparavant (= similar people) (pejorative) he and his like → lui et ses semblablesshe and her like → elle et ses semblables likes nplhis likes and dislikes → ses goûts et dégoûts advas like as not, like as not (= very probably) → très probablementCollins English/French Electronic Resource. © HarperCollins Publishers 20051 adj (= similar) → ähnlich; the two boys are very like → die beiden Jungen sind sich (dat) → sehr ähnlich (= same) of like origin → gleicher Herkunft prep → wie; to be like somebody → jdm ähnlich sein; they are very like each other → sie sind sich (dat) → sehr ähnlich; to look like somebody → jdm ähnlich sehen; who(m) is he like? → wem sieht er ähnlich?, wem gleicht er?, what's he like? → wie ist er?; he's just bought a new car - what is it like? → er hat sich gerade ein neues Auto gekauft - wie sieht es aus?; what's your new coat like? → wie sieht dein neuer Mantel aus?; she was like a sister to me → sie war wie eine Schwester zu mir; that's just like him! → das sieht ihm ähnlich!, das ist typisch!; it's not like him → es ist nicht seine Art; I never saw anything like it → so (et)was habe ich noch nie gesehen; that's just like a woman! → typisch Frau!; that's more like it! → so ist es schon besser!; it's on company advice - orders, more like (inf) → es ist auf Anraten der Firma - besser gesagt auf Anordnung; that that's nothing like as nice as this one → der Hut ist bei Weitem nicht so hübsch wie dieser; there's nothing like a nice cup of tea! → es geht nichts über eine schöne Tasse Tee!; there's nothing like it → das ist einmalig; is this what you had in mind? — it's something/nothing like it → hattest du dir so etwas vorgestellt? — ja, so ähnlich/nein, überhaupt nicht; that's something like a steak! → das ist vielleicht ein Steak!, das nenne ich ein Steak!; the Americans are like that → so sind die Amerikaner; people like that → solche Leute; a car like that → so ein Auto, ein solches Auto; I found one like it → ich habe ein Ähnliches gefunden; one exactly like it → eines, das genau gleich ist; it will cost something like £10 → es wird etwa or so ungefähr £ 10 kosten; I was thinking of something like a doll → ich habe an so etwas wie eine Puppe gedacht; that sounds like a good idea → das hört sich gut an; like a man → wie ein Mann; like mad (Brit inf) like anything (inf) → wie verrückt (inf) → or wild (inf); like that → so; it wasn't like that at all → so wars doch gar nicht; he thinks like us → er denkt wie wir; A, like B, thinks that ... → A wie (auch) B meinen, dass ... adv (inf) it's nothing like → es ist nichts dergleichen; (as) like as not, very like, like enough → höchstwahrscheinlich, sehr wahrscheinlich; I found this money, like (dial) → ich hab da das Geld gefunden, nich (sl) → or wa (dial) → or gell (S Ger) conj (strictly incorrect) like I said → wie ich schon sagte, wie gesagt; it's just like I say → das sage ich ja immer; like we used to (do) → wie früher; do it like I do → mach es so wie ich n (= equal etc) we shall not see his like again → einen Mann or so etwas (inf) → wie ihn bekommen wir nicht wieder; did you ever see the like? (inf) → hast du so was schon gesehen?; and the like, and such like → und dergleichen; the like(s) of which → dergleichen; I've met the likes of you before → solche wie dich kenne ich schon; I've no time for the likes of him (inf) → mit solchen Leuten gebe ich mich nicht ab (inf); like attracts like → Gleich und Gleich gesellt sich gern (prov)2 n usu pl (= taste) → Geschmack m; she tried to find out his likes and dislikes → sie wollte herausbekommen, was er mochte und was nicht; when it comes to food he has far too many likes and dislikes → beim Essen ist er viel zu wählerisch vt vi he is free to act as he likes → es steht ihm frei, zu tun, was er will; as you like → wie Sie wollen; if you like → wenn Sie wollenCollins German Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged 7th Edition 2005. © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1980 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1997, 1999, 2004, 2005, 20071 [laɪk]4. conj (as) → comelike we used to (do) → come facevamo una volta5. n we shall not see his like again → non ci sarà mai più uno come luidid you ever see the like (of it)? → hai mai visto niente del genere?the like of which I never saw → come non ne avevo mai vistisparrows, blackbirds and the like → passeri, merli e altri uccelli similithe likes of him (fam) (pej) → quelli come lui2 [laɪk]Collins Italian Dictionary 1st Edition © HarperCollins Publishers 1995 (laik) adjective the same or similar. They're as like as two peas. soortgelyk مِثْل подобен igual podobný wie lignende; ens ίδιος, παρόμοιοcparecido, igual sarnane مانند samanlainen pareil àr דומה ,כמו-, 同じ isti, sličan hasonló sama, serupa eins, líkur similе 似ている panašus, vienodas līdzīgs serupa gelijk lik, ens; liknendepodobny به شان اسامی igual asemănător одинаковый; похожий podobný podoben nalik like 同じような benzer, ayını, eş 相同的，相似的 схожий, подібний ی مماثل ، غیر ویسا giống như 相同 preposition the same as or similar to; in the same or a similar way as. He climbs like a cat; She is like her mother. ewebeeld مِثْل، مُشابِه като como jako wie ligesom; som σαν como nagu مثل kuin commeمثل 同じ ... のような ~ , 가 kaip līdzīgs; kā seperti net alssomjak به شان،لکه como ca похожий na ako kakor poput som, likadan som 同じ gibi 相像 , 如同 схожий, подібний ک طرح مشابه giống như 相象 noun someone or something which is the same or as good etc as another. You won't see his like / their like again. gelyke تطیر مثیل، شبیه подобие igual nekdo podobný; něco podobného der/die/das Gleiche mage; noget lignende όμοιος cosa igual -sarnane مثل شبیه; vastaava son pareil; chose pareille دوئه مثل sesuatu yang sama e-ð/e-n sem er jafngóður/eins þarí, sinnie似たもの () kitas toks pat/panašus ¡ kaut kas līdzīgs seseorang atau sesuatu yang serupa zo iemand/iemand make, like, noe liknende taki który by dorównał, równy لکه،هماغه،کوم igual pereche, seamăn چېڅه-ا. подобие niekto podobný; niečo podobného der/die/das Gleiche mage; noget lignende όμοιος cosa igual -sarnane مثل شبیه; vastaava son pareil; chose pareille دوئه مثل 同样的人或事 conjunction (especially American) in the same or a similar way as. No-one does it like he does. soos مِثْلَما كما كذا ،كما ،مثل ،كما كذا كما كذا كما كذا

Adjective before the 12th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1a Preposition 1561, in the meaning defined at sense 1a Noun (2) 12th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1b Adverb 14th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1 Conjunction 15th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1a Auxiliary Verb 15th century, in the meaning defined above Time Traveler The first known use of like was before the 12th century See more words from the same century Browse Nearby Words Cite this Entry Style MLA Chicago APA Merriam-Webster “Like.” Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary, Merriam-Webster, . Accessed 21 Jul. 2025. Last Updated: 14 Jul 2025 - Updated example sentences WASHINGTON — Two weeks after he cast a decisive vote to pass a sweeping domestic policy bill that cuts Medicaid by about $1 trillion, Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., introduced a bill to repeal some of those cuts.“Now is the time to prevent any future cuts to Medicaid from going into effect,” Hawley said in a statement. It sparked mockery from the normally mild-mannered Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., who posted on X: “Just so I’m clear… he’s introducing a bill….to repeal the bill… he voted for….two weeks ago?”Hawley said he feared the party's megabill would cause long-term harm if the Medicaid cuts are fully implemented, but still voted for it because it will deliver more hospital money for Missouri in the first four years.“You can't get everything you want in one piece of legislation. I like a lot of what we did. I don’t like some of it,” he told reporters after unveiling his own measure on Tuesday.The move represents a trend in Congress during President Donald Trump's second term. Republican lawmakers across the ideological spectrum keep casting votes in favor of bills even while warning that they’re deeply flawed and may require fixing down the road. In some cases, lawmakers explicitly threaten to vote “no” on bills before eventually folding and voting “yes.”It isn’t unusual for lawmakers to back legislation they call imperfect. But this year, that contrast has become more stark. It comes as Trump has solidified his grasp over the GOP base, resulting in lawmakers growing increasingly leery of crossing him and risking their political futures. Nowhere has that dynamic been more pronounced than with the ultraconservative House Freedom Caucus, whose members have repeatedly threatened to oppose bills before acquiescing under pressure from Trump. With Trump's megabill, they complained about red ink: It's expected to add $3.3 trillion to the national debt over 10 years, according to the Congressional Budget Office. “What the Senate did is unconscionable,” Rep. Ralph Norman, R-S.C., said in a Rules Committee meeting, vowing that “I’ll vote against it here and I’ll vote against it on the floor.” He ultimately voted for that bill, unamended, after conservatives were told Congress would consider future bills to lower the debt.In the House, a faction of swing-district Republicans voted for clean energy cuts in the "big, beautiful bill" while voicing their hope that the Senate would undo them. That didn’t happen, and nearly all of them voted for the legislation regardless. Across the Capitol, after Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, cast another key vote to approve the megabill, she said she “struggled mightily with the impact on the most vulnerable in this country, when you look to Medicaid and SNAP,” and called on the House to make changes. They didn’t. The House passed it as written and sent it to Trump to become law."Do I like this bill? No. But I tried to take care of Alaska’s interests,” Murkowski told NBC News after the Senate vote earlier this month.“But I know, I know that in many parts of the country, there are Americans that are not going to be advantaged by this bill. I don’t like that,” she added.In another case, Rep. David Valadao, R-Calif., who represents a battleground district with a high share of Medicaid recipients, threatened to vote against the entire Senate bill if it maintained the steeper cuts to the program.“I will not support a final bill that eliminates vital funding streams our hospitals rely on, including provider taxes and state directed payments,” he said in a statement, urging the Senate to “stick to the Medicaid provisions” in the earlier House version of the bill; “otherwise, I will vote no.”Valadao’s request was ignored. Five days later he voted for the Senate bill when it returned to the House, securing final passage. (His office didn’t respond to queries about the contradiction.)In the end, just three Republicans who expressed concerns about Medicaid voted against the bill: Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C., who had just announced he wouldn’t seek re-election, as well as Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, and Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick R-Pa., who are set to face tough races in next years midterms. And Rep. Thomas Massie, R-Ky., who consistently voted against the megabill throughout the process over deficit concerns, is now facing the threat of a Trump-backed primary challenge. A similar trend occurred on the $9 billion package of spending cuts to NPR, PBS and foreign aid that passed Congress this week and was sent to Trump’s desk. In the run-up to the votes, multiple Republicans expressed serious concerns with the substance of the bill, its deference to the executive branch and the damage it could do to bipartisan dealmaking on government funding if one side can undo the parts it doesn’t like on a party-line basis.“I suspect we’re going to find out there are some things that we’re going to regret. Some second and third order effects. And I suspect that when we do we’ll have to come back and fix it,” said Tillis, before voting in favor of the bill.Tillis told NBC News that he was “trying to have a positive view about how this rescission is going to be implemented” and that if he’s unsatisfied it will change his attitude to future rescission bills.Sen. Roger Wicker, R-Miss., the chair of the Armed Services Committee, said he was troubled that Congress wasn't detailing which programs were cut and deferring to the White House.“It concerns me — as perhaps approaching a disregard for the constitutional responsibilities of the legislative branch under Article I,” said Wicker, who voted for the bill. “And in this situation it will amount to the House and Senate basically saying: We concede that decision voluntarily to the executive branch.”Sahil KapurJulie Tsirkin, Frank Thorp V and Ryan Nobles contributed. prepositionIdioms jump to other results similar to somebody/somethingShe's wearing a dress like mine.He's very like his father.She looks nothing like (= not at all like) her mother.That sounds like (= I think I can hear) him coming now.It tastes rather like chicken. used to ask somebody’s opinion of somebody/somethingWhat's it like studying in Spain?This new girlfriend of his—what's she like?Topics Opinion and argumenta1 in the same way as somebody/somethingStudents were angry at being treated like children.He ran like the wind (= very fast).You do it like this.I, like everyone else, had read these stories in the press.Don't look at me like that. (informal) The candles are arranged like so (= in this way).Language Bank similarlysimilarlyMaking comparisonsThis chart provides a comparison of the ways that teenage boys and girls in the UK spend their free time.In many cases, the results for boys and girls are virtually the same/identical.In many cases, the results for boys are virtually the same as/identical to the results for girls.Both boys and girls spend the bulk of their free time with friends.Most of the boys do more than two hours of sport a week, as do many of the girls.Like many of the girls, most of the boys spend a large part of their free time using the internet.The girls particularly enjoy using social networking websites. Similarly, nearly all the boys said they spent at least two to three hours a week on these sites.Extra ExamplesThe dark wood shone like glass.Stop acting like a spoilt child. for exampleanti-utopian novels like ‘Animal Farm’ and ‘1984’Which Word? as / likeas / likeYou can use both as and like to say that things are similar.Like is a preposition and is used before nouns and pronouns:He has blue eyes like me.As is a conjunction and an adverb and is used before a clause, another adverb or a clause beginning with a preposition:She enjoys all kinds of music, as I do.As ever, he was friendly and helpful.Repeat these five steps, as in the last exercise.In informal English like is frequently used as a conjunction or an adverb instead of as:Nobody understands him like I do.I don’t want to upset him again like before. It is also used instead of as if:It looks like we’re going to be late. These uses of like are common but are not considered correct in formal written English.You will find more help on the use of as and like in the entries for particular verbs, such as act, behave, etc. used to show what is usual or typical for somebodyIt's just like her to tell everyone about it. Word Originpreposition ,Middle English: from Old Norse līkr; related to alike.Idioms used to give a number or an amount that is more accurate than one previously mentionedHe believes the figure should be more like $10 million. more like (it) (informal)better; more acceptableThis is more like it! Real food—not that canned muck. used to give what you think is a better description of somethingJust talking? Arguing more like it. (British English, informal) used to say that somebody has done something annoying, silly, etc.Oh, what am I like? I just completely forgot it. See like in the Oxford Advanced American DictionarySee like in the Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English The use of “like” as a discourse marker has become pervasive in everyday speech. Research finds that this use is surprisingly old and not American in origin. Despite the sense that it is useless, it serves several important new functions. For many speakers, saying “like,” like, all the time has become ubiquitous – or at least it feels that way to those who find it disdainful. Though it might seem like nails on a chalkboard to those not yet on board with the novel roles “like” is playing in our speech, when we dismiss those speakers, we miss the more important message underneath and the novel purposes that non-traditional “like” use is serving. How, like, did like begin? In its use as a verb, “to like” is of Germanic origin and has been around for over a thousand years in English, though it was used a bit differently early on, when it appeared as lician. At first, “like” appeared only in sentences with impersonal subjects such as “It likes me not,” but then, by about 1200, the person experiencing the "liking" started to take over subject position, as in “he likes” or “I like.” In Old English (the period before 1100), we also find “like” used as an adjective, meaning 'resemblance' or 'similarity,' most likely a borrowing from Old Scandinavian, as in “His son was him like.” A few centuries later, like morphs into a preposition as well, probably developing from this earlier adjectival use, i.e., “becomes like his father.” Slightly edgier uses, such as “like” in its still prescriptively disfavored but popular use as a conjunction (e.g., “like his dad had done”), have been around longer than we might think, dating back to the 15th century. Even modern conjunction usage after verbs of perception such as “feels like,” “seems like,” or “appears like” started to appear by the 1800s. This tells us that the syntactic (sentential) role and position of “like” has long been flexible, and, importantly, in its prepositional and conjunctive usage, it has long carried a meaning of ‘similarity’ or ‘resemblance.’ From a historical perspective, the discourse marking form “like” (“He, like, looks sad”) has been around a lot longer than most of us would imagine. It dates back, in terms of being used as a discourse marker, to the 1700s where we find it used both in literary dialogue and in more colloquial speech in British trial transcripts. It might feel very American, but the new forms of like are definitely British imports. Alex D’arcy, who literally wrote the book on “like,” found prevalent use of sentence-initial “like” in recordings of elderly speakers born in the late 1800s or around the turn of the century in both Britain and New Zealand. The Oxford English Dictionary also places “like, wow” with the beat generation. And who can forget, like, Shaggy from Scooby-Doo in the late '60s? So, the conventional wisdom that “like” came in with the valley girls is simply incorrect – association with a Southern California ethos in the 1980s and 1990s might have helped take “like” mainstream, but it was a widely used feature in British (and Irish) dialects for centuries before. Why like? The non-traditional discourse marking use of “like” seems to have developed from its use as a preposition or conjunction, deriving from its value in expressing similarity or approximation (e.g., "he is like a genius" becomes "he is, like, a genius" and then “like, he is a genius”). And in terms of its function – it is surprisingly useful! Here are some of the major ways speakers use it today, all of which revolve around projecting a speaker’s subjective sensibility: Like used as an approximator instead of the preposition “about.” In this context, like is used to flag approximation or to mark that you are making an estimation: “He’s, like, 15 or 16 years old.” As a sentential adverbial – usually used at the beginning of a sentence to link that sentence with a previous one and provide a subjective example or a speaker’s viewpoint: “I try not to worry about it too much. Like, what would be the point?” As a discourse marker to indicate a looseness of meaning, as in “She’s, like, my oldest friend” (meaning it may not exactly be true, but close), or to add emphasis, “it’s like 100 miles from here!” As a quotative verb instead of the verb “to say”: “I was like, ‘I hope you make it,’ and he was like, ‘I’ll be there!’” Again, looseness or subjectivity is key here, as it does not commit a speaker to an exact quote in the same way that using the verb “to say” would. Is it really a female thing? Another myth is that it is an exclusively female phenomenon. While it is true that, among the oldest speakers who have been studied, “like” was more prevalent among women, this is not the case for those under age 40. The biggest user group of “like” is younger speakers, rather than simply female speakers. So, whether you are a "like" user yourself, or are among those who find themselves cringing when hearing it used by others, the best advice linguists can give you is to relax about it. Research shows it is one of the fastest growing features in global Englishes, which suggests it is here to stay. As younger speakers become older speakers, its stigma will fade and it will simply be something everyone says. And as for its seemingly incessant use among our youngest speakers? We also find that the use of “like” decreases as people age, so that too will pass. References D'Arcy, Alexandra. 2007. ‘Like and Language Ideology: Disentangling Fact from Fiction.’ American Speech 82 (4): 386–419 D'Arcy, Alexandra. 2017. Discourse-Pragmatic Variation in Context: Eight Hundred Years of LIKE. Amsterdam. John Benjamins. Tagliamonte, S.A., D'Arcy, S.A., & Louro, S.A. (2016). Outliers, impact, and rationalization in linguistic change. Language, 92, 824 - 849. Get the help you need from a therapist near you–a FREE service from Psychology Today. Atlanta, GA Austin, TX Baltimore, MD Boston, MA Brooklyn, NY Charlotte, NC Chicago, IL Columbus, OH Dallas, TX Denver, CO Detroit, MI Houston, TX Indianapolis, IN Jacksonville, FL Las Vegas, NV Los Angeles, CA Louisville, KY Memphis, TN Miami, FL Milwaukee, WI Minneapolis, MN Nashville, TN New York, NY Oakland, CA Omaha, NE Philadelphia, PA Phoenix, AZ Pittsburgh, PA Portland, OR Raleigh, NC Sacramento, CA Saint Louis, MO San Antonio, TX San Diego, CA San Francisco, CA San Jose, CA Seattle, WA Tucson, AZ Washington, DC More from Valerie Fridland Ph.D. More from Psychology Today of the same form, appearance, kind, character, amount, etc..I cannot remember a like instance.corresponding or agreeing in general or in some noticeable respect; similar; analogous.drawing, painting, and like arts.bearing resemblance.Dialect. likely or probable.'Tis like that he's gone mad.Dialect. about; almost ready, as to perform some action.The poor chap seemed like to run away.in like manner with; similarly to; in the manner characteristic of.resembling (someone or something).He is just like his father. Your necklace is just like mine.characteristic of.It would be like him to forget our appointment.as if there is promise of; indicative of.as if someone or something gives promise of being.She looks like a good prospect for the job.disposed or inclined to (usually preceded byfeel).to feel like going to bed.similar or comparable to.There is nothing like a cold drink of water when one is thirsty. What was he like?(used correlatively to indicate similarity through relationship).(used to establish an intensifying, often facetious, comparison): They ran like hell down the street.Last night I slept like a log.They ran like hell down the street.as; such as.There are numerous hobbies you might enjoy, like photography or painting.nearly; closely; approximately.The house is more like 40 than 20 years old.Informal. likely or probably.Like enough he'll come with us. Like as not her leg is broken.Nonstandard. as it were; in a way; somehow.to a degree; more or less.The guy was standing against the wall, looking very tough like.in the same way as; just as; as.It happened like you might expect it would.as if.He acted like he was afraid. The car runs like new.a similar or comparable person or thing, or like persons or things; counterpart, match, or equal (usually preceded by a possessive adjective orthe).No one has seen his like in a long time. Like attracts like.kind; sort; type; ilk (usually preceded by a possessive adjective).I despise moochers and their like.the like, something of a similar nature.They grow oranges, lemons, and the like.Informal. (used in speech, often nonvolitionally or habitually, to preface a sentence, to fill a pause, to express uncertainty, or to intensify or neutralize a following adjective).So, like, why didn't you call me?The music was, like, really great, you know?I'm not going out—it's like 10 degrees out there!to take pleasure in; find agreeable or congenial.We all liked the concert.to regard with favor; have a kindly or friendly feeling for (a person, group, etc.); find attractive.His parents like me and I like them.to wish or prefer: I like my coffee with milk and sugar.I'd like a piece of cake, please.I like my coffee with milk and sugar.Digital Technology. to indicate one’s enjoyment of, agreement with, or interest in (website content, especially in social media).Share your posts so your friends can like them or leave a comment.Like us on Facebook to get a free sample.to feel inclined; wish; want.We'll have lunch whenever you like.Archaic. to suit the tastes or wishes; please.Usually likes the things a person likes.a long list of likes and dislikes.(sometimes initial capital letter) an instance of indicating one’s liking of specific website content.I see my comment got lots of likes.a feature or option, usually a button, that enables this.I installed a Like on my blog so you can subscribe to updates.(sometimes initial capital letter) noting or pertaining to a feature used to like specific website content.a Like button;like boxes.a suffixal use of like in the formation of adjectives (childlike; lifelike), sometimes hyphenated.(prenominal) similar; resembling“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012similar to; similarly to; in the manner ofacting like a maniache's so like his fatherused correlatively to express similarity in certain proverbslike mother, like daughtersuch asthere are lots of ways you might amuse yourself — like taking a long walk, for instance“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012a dialect word for likelynot standard as it were: often used as a parenthetic fillerthere was this policeman just staring at us, likeinformal used to introduce direct speech or nonverbal communicationI was like, ‘You're kidding!’“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012not standard as though; as ifyou look like you've just seen a ghostin the same way as; in the same way thatshe doesn't dance like you do“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012the equal or counterpart of a person or thing, esp one respected or prizedcompare like with likeher like will never be seen againsimilar thingsdogs, foxes, and the likepeople or things similar to (someone or something specified)we don't want the likes of you around here“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012(tr) to find (something) enjoyable or agreeable or find it enjoyable or agreeable (to do something)he likes boxinghe likes to hear music(tr) to be fond of(tr) to prefer or wish (to do something)(tr) to feel towards; consider; regard(intr) to feel disposed or inclined; choose; wisharchaic (tr) to please; agree with“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012(usually plural) a favourable feeling, desire, preference, etc (esp in the phrase likes and dislikes)“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012resembling or similar tohaving the characteristics of“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012The use of like to mean such as was formerly thought to be undesirable in formal writing, but has now become acceptable. It was also thought that as rather than like should be used to mean in the same way that , but now both as and like are acceptable: they hunt and catch fish as/like their ancestors used to. The use of look like and seem like before a clause, although very common, is thought by many people to be incorrect or non-standard: it looks as though he won't come (not it looks like he won't come)Like1 as a conjunction meaning “as, in the same way as” (Many shoppers study the food ads like brokers study market reports) or “as if” (It looks like it will rain) has been used for nearly 500 years and by many distinguished literary and intellectual figures. Since the mid-19th century there have been objections, often vehement, to these uses. Nevertheless, such uses are almost universal today in all but the most formal speech and writing. In extremely careful speech and in much formal writing, as, as if, and as though are more commonly used than like : The commanding general accepted full responsibility for the incident, as any professional soldier would. Many of the Greenwich Village bohemians lived as if (or as though) there were no tomorrow. The strong strictures against the use of like as a conjunction have resulted in the occasional hypercorrect use of as as a preposition where like is idiomatic: She looks as a sympathetic person. Like meaning “as if” is also standard in informal speech and writing with a small number of adjectives: The crew worked like crazy (or like mad) to finish the job on time. See also as.Origin of like1First recorded in 1150–1200; Middle English lic, lik, from Old Norse līkr; replacing Old English gelīc, cognate with Dutch gelijk, German gleich, Old Norse glīkr, Gothic galeiks “like,” literally, “of the same body or form”; γ-, lichOrigin of like2First recorded before 900; Middle English verb liken, Old English līcian; cognate with Dutch lijken, Old Norse līka; from the same Germanic root as like 1Origin of like1shortened from Old English gelīc; compare Old Norse glīkr and līkr likeOrigin of like2Old English līcian; related to Old Norse līka, Dutch lijkenOrigin of like3Idiomslike to, was on the verge of or came close to (doing something): Also liked to.The poor kid like to froze.be like, to say, declare, think, or feel (usually used to introduce reported speech or thought).She's like, “I don't believe it,” and I'm like, “No, it's true!”like anything, very much; extremely; with great intensity.He wanted like anything to win.the like / likes of, someone or something similar to; the equal of.I've never seen the like of it anywhere.something like, something approaching or approximating.It looked something like this.would like. would.Examples have not been reviewed.He found the most easy, menial tasks so challenging, like making a meal or walking the dog.Hacking is becoming easier and some of the tactics don't even involve a computer, like ringing an IT helpdesk to gain access."This summer, it feels like our worst fears have come true," she added.And getting certification is a rigorous, costly process, as seeds need to be tested in a laboratory for their purity and things like how well they germinate.In the US, the rise of measles has been partly linked to vaccine-hesitant public figures, like Health Secretary Robert F Kennedy Jr - although he has since endorsed the measles vaccine as safe.admire appreciate go for love What does -like mean?The suffix -like means “like,” in the sense "of the same form, appearance, kind, character, amount, etc." It is often used in a variety of technical and everyday terms. In some instances, -like is used with a hyphen, as in animal-like.The suffix -like comes from Middle English lik and is closely related to the suffix -ly.Definitions and idiom definitions from Dictionary.com Unabridged, based on the Random House Unabridged Dictionary, © Random House, Inc. 2023Idioms from The American Heritage® Idioms Dictionary copyright © 2002, 2001, 1995 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.Likasilike a bat out of hellBrowse#aabbccddeeffgghhiijjkkllmmnnooppqqrrsstuuvvwwxxyyzzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day!© 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC Browse#aabbccddeeffgghhiijjkkllmmnnooppqqrrsstuuvvwwxxyyzzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day!© 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC I have good news and bad news. The good news is this week’s episode of And Just Like That... is a breezy 32 minutes. The bad news is that Aidan (John Corbett) is back. “This is a nice surprise,” Carrie (Sarah Jessica Parker) says as they lug his bags up the stairs, and I have to disagree. It is the worst surprise.Can we pause for a moment for me to have an existential crisis? I am a longtime Aidan girl. You should have seen how smug I was when public sentiment turned against Big a few years ago. It’s not that I thought Carrie should have chosen Aidan (they are ill-matched, and she’s a narcissist)—it’s that I would have chosen Aidan. It’s that I thought he was the sane person’s better choice. It’s unforgivable how this show has made me hate Aidan. Was he always this horrible? Has the wisdom of age lifted the scales from my eyes? Or has AJLT morphed him into a monster that wasn’t there before? My working theory is that Aidan is the worst version of himself when in a relationship with Carrie because she makes him feel insecure. Any time he senses that she might have something outside of him, he squeezes and manipulates in the most skin-crawling ways imaginable until she’s back where he wants her. When she tries to leave for a writing session with Duncan (Jonathan Cake), he whines about Wyatt until her sympathies get her to cancel. I loathe this man.Across town, Lisa’s (Nicole Ari Parker) crush on her editor, Marion (Mehcad Brooks), has escalated to sex dreams. She confides in Charlotte (Kristen Davis) that there’s an unspoken energy between them that scares her, and Charlotte—supportive to a fault—suggests that maybe that’s a byproduct of a creative partnership. Charlotte, I love you. May we all have friends like Charlotte. Charlotte herself spends the episode taking care of post-surgery Harry (Evan Handler), battling her returned vertigo (okay), and serving as the uniting force for everyone to come to her gallery’s opening. Part of this opening involves a messy mattress (including a fake-jizz-filled condom) for a naked woman to lie face down on, and Carrie explains this was a profound display in the 1980s, before our Lena Dunham times. I would just like to point out that Lena Dunham’s Girls was billed ad nauseum as a millennial Sex And The City, and for this show to reference her is basically the snake eating its own tail. Lisa tries to get things going with Herbert (Chris Jackson) by initiating morning sex, which totally baffles him. “Before coffee?!” He has to get up to pee, which kills the mood for her. Have these people never had morning sex in 20 years of marriage? Later, Lisa basically goes into a tailspin watching Marion eat melon in the most sexual way imaginable and then insists she loves her everyday kale salad (“no croutons, dressing on the side”—a tragedy) and never wants something different. He invites her to a screening to meet an executive from the Obamas’ production company, but she bails once they bump knees during the movie. I want you to have it all—but yeah, maybe it’s time for some work boundaries, Lisa. At least until you cool off a bit. Seema (Sarita Choudhury) is finally having great sex with Carrie’s gardener Adam (Logan Marshall-Green) but is thrown when he reveals himself to be extremely crunchy—as in, he uses crystals instead of deodorant and his last name has legally been changed to Karma. “You should have told me about this crystal shit before we ever got involved,” Seema says over dinner, looking as skittish as I felt. But I don’t know, maybe just enjoy the sex for a bit. You’re not going to marry the guy. And finally, Miranda (Cynthia Nixon) continues to be a completely different person from who she was in the SATC days in that she’s quick to contort herself into whatever she thinks will please her partner. In the case of Joy (Dolly Wells), that means maybe walking back her sobriety. Never mind that Joy is totally cool with the fact that Miranda doesn’t drink—the second that she asks to keep gin in Miranda’s apartment, Miranda is wondering if she’s just “alcohol-ish,” instead of alcoholic. Maybe she could just enjoy a cocktail with friends! Carrie and Charlotte are understandably nervous about this train of thought, but there’s no better sign that you’re legitimately an alcoholic than considering drinking your girlfriend’s special gin (a liquor you hate) while alone in your apartment. To escape the temptation, Miranda drops the bottle down the garbage chute. This episode tries to tie everything together with the theme from Charlotte’s art exhibit—does what made you happy then make you happy now? Whether it’s alcohol or the idea of a relationship with Aidan Shaw, I think the answer is no. Stray observations • Charlotte’s young co-worker while setting up the art exhibit: “I hope someone took a picture of me holding the jizz bag to send to my surgeon parents.” • Logan Marshall-Green’s delivery of “He’s a meanie” when Aidan tries to get his opinion on Duncan was perfect. • Watching Patti LuPone do whatever she wants with a Buffalo-meets-Italian accent is all I really want from this show. 1 [+ object] a : to enjoy (something) : to get pleasure from (something) My son likes baseball. He likes baseball, but he loves football. Do you like Mexican food? I liked the movie a lot more than I thought I would. She likes (it) that I play the guitar. = She likes the fact that I play the guitar. She likes it when I play the guitar. [=she enjoys hearing me play the guitar] I like it very much. = I really like it. = (chiefly Brit) I quite like it. [+] more examples [-] hide examples [+] Example sentences [-] Hide examples — often + -ing verb I like playing the guitar. He doesn't like admitting that he was wrong. — often followed by to + verb I like to play the guitar. He doesn't like to admit that he was wrong. b : to regard (something) in a favorable way I don't like the idea of leaving my mother alone all week. [=I don't think that it would be a good idea to leave my mother alone all week] I wouldn't like it if you got the wrong idea. = I wouldn't like you to get the wrong idea. = (US) I wouldn't like for you to get the wrong idea. [=I don't want you to get the wrong idea] 2 [+ object] : to feel affection for (someone) : to enjoy being with (someone) I don't know what it is about that guy, but I just don't like him. I think she likes you. [=I think she is attracted to you] They were political allies who truly/genuinely liked each other. What is it that you like or dislike about him most? a much-liked/well-liked colleague She says she likes him as a friend but she's not attracted to him. My boss was a tough guy, but I liked him for his honesty. [+] more examples [-] hide examples [+] Example sentences [-] Hide examples 3 [+ object] — used to ask about someone's feelings or opinion about something So how do you like sailing now that you've tried it? [=do you like or dislike sailing?] “How do you like this weather?” “I don't like it at all!” “How do you like Mexican food?” “I love it!” 4 [+ object] a : to want to have (something) — used with would to make a polite suggestion, offer, or request Would you like another cup of coffee? “Would anyone like a drink?” “Yes, I'd like one, please.” I'd like (a chance) to reply to the last speaker. b : to want or prefer to do something Would you like to go sailing? [=do you want to go sailing?] Despite everything, I (would) still like to think that people are basically good. c — used in various spoken phrases that typically express anger or surprise She left without saying a word to me. How would you like it if someone ignored you that way? = How would you like being ignored that way? = How would you like to be ignored that way? [=don't you agree that it was wrong of her to ignore me that way?] “So she just left without saying a word. How do you like that?” “Incredible!” (Brit) “You never listen!” “I never listen? I like that! ” [=that's not at all true/fair] “You're an idiot!” “How would you like a punch in the nose?!” [=I'm going to punch you in the nose if you keep talking to me that way] “He thinks he can beat you.” “I'd (just) like to see him try!” [=he can't beat me; he would lose if he tried to beat me] [+] more examples [-] hide examples [+] Example sentences [-] Hide examples 5 [+ object] : to choose or prefer to have (something) in a specified way or condition “How do you like your steaks cooked?” “I like my steaks medium rare.” 6 [no object] : to make a choice about what to do, have, etc. You can leave any time you like. “What should we do now?” “Whatever you like!” [=whatever you want to do] We can stay as long as you like. [=as long as you want to stay] There are plenty of cookies, so take as many as you like. 7 [+ object] : to do well in (certain conditions) This plant likes dry soil. My car does not like cold weather. if you like 1 a — used to say that you can do something if you want to do it Have another drink, if you like. b — used to agree politely to a suggestion or request “Could we stay a little longer?” “Yes, if you like.” [=if that's what you want to do] 2 chiefly British — used to suggest a possible way of describing or thinking about something The experience was, if you like [=if you will], a glimpse of the future. [count] : something that you like, approve of, or enjoy — usually plural — compare 5like 1 : similar to (something or someone) The house looks like a barn. Real life isn't at all like life in the movies. = Real life isn't at all like the movies. It's like when we were kids. She's not very (much) like her sister. She's not at all like her sister. The baby is/looks more like his mother than his father. “Who is he like?” “He's not like anyone I've ever met before.” I know I used to be selfish, but I'm not like that any more. [=I'm not selfish any more] [+] more examples [-] hide examples [+] Example sentences [-] Hide examples — used with what in phrases that ask about or refer to the qualities of a person or thing “What's her new boyfriend like?” [=how would you describe her new boyfriend?] “He's very nice.” I don't know what the food is like in that restaurant. [=I don't know if the food is good or bad in that restaurant] I thought he was nice, but then I found out what he's really like. [=I found out what kind of person he really is] She knows what it's like to be lonely. = She knows what it feels like to be lonely. 2 : typical of (someone) It's just like him to be late. [=he is often late] It's not like her to be so selfish. [=she is not usually so selfish] 3 : comparable to or close to (something) It costs something like five dollars. [=it costs about five dollars] (chiefly Brit) That's nothing like [=nowhere near, not nearly] enough food! I thought it would only take two or three minutes, but it ended up taking more like half an hour. [=it took about half an hour] There's nothing like [=nothing better than] a mug of hot chocolate on a cold winter's night. 4 : in a way that is similar to (someone or something) She was screaming like a maniac. We'll blow it up like a balloon. He was laughing like a hyena. 5 — used to introduce an example or series of examples They studied subjects like [=such as] physics (and chemistry). it looks like rain — used to say that you think it is going to rain soon I was going to play golf, but it looks like rain. just like that — see 2just like father, like son — see 1father like so : in the manner shown — used in speech when you are showing someone how to do something The corner of the cloth should be folded down, like so. like that 1 : of that kind 2 : in that manner Why does she talk like that? like this 1 : of this kind I love weather like this. 2 : in this manner I hate it when it rains like this. more like it informal — used to say that something is better or more pleasing “I've done twice as much today as yesterday!” “Well, that's more like it! Congratulations!” It was a long and tiring day, but as the waiter brought me my dinner, I thought to myself, “Well, this is more like it.” : having the same or similar qualities All three sisters have like [=(more commonly) similar] dispositions. [count] : a person or thing that is similar to another person or thing We may never see his like again. [=we may never see another person who is like him again] It was a beautiful sunset. I've never seen the like before. also : a group of similar people or things He and his like [=type] tend to scare people away from the cause. comparing like with like [=comparing similar people or things] and the like : and others of a similar kind : and so forth They told stories about ghosts and vampires and the like. the likes of also the like of 1 : such people as She has read the complete works of many great writers, including the likes of Jane Austen and Robert Browning. 2 disapproving : such a person as We have no use for the likes of you. 3 : the kind or sort of It was a beautiful sunset, the likes of which I've never seen before. [=I've never seen such a beautiful sunset before] — compare 2like as like as not or like as not : probably Like as not the crime will never be solved. Usage Like has many uses in informal speech, especially in the speech of young people. It is commonly used to emphasize a word or phrase. (chiefly Brit) He was gorgeous, like. It is used in a way that shows you are not sure or confident about what you are saying. I need to, like, borrow money. Her father is, like, a scientist or something. I think it costs, like, 20 dollars. In very informal speech in U.S. English, it is used with the verb be to say what someone thinks, says, etc. She was telling me what to do and I was like [=I was thinking], “Mind your own business.” She was like, “Are you sure you want to do this?” and I was like “Yeah, why not?” [=she said, “Are you sure you want to do this?” and I said, “Yeah, why not?”] He's always criticizing everyone but it's like, “Who cares what he thinks?” [=he's always criticizing everyone but no one cares what he thinks] informal 1 a : the way it would be if The plane looked like [=as if] it would crash. It seemed like [=as if] he'd never been away. b : the way someone would do if She acts like [=as if] she's better than us. 2 : the same as : as You sound just like [=the way] he does. Does it look like [=the way, as] it did when you began? Does it look now like (it did) before? [=does it look now as it did before?] Real life is not like [=as, the way] it is in the movies. Real life isn't at all like [=the way] the movies are. Like I said [=as I said] before, you've got to try harder. [+] more examples [-] hide examples [+] Example sentences [-] Hide examples 3 : in the way or manner that I did it like [=the way, just as] you told me. 4 : such as a bag like a doctor carries [=a bag like the kind of bag that a doctor carries] The book tells you what to do when your car has trouble—like when it won't start. [=as, for example, when it won't start] Usage The use of like as a conjunction is regarded by some people as an error. It occurs mainly in speech and informal writing. like, the like, the likes ofnouna similar kind"dogs, foxes, and the like", "we don't want the likes of you around here"like, ilkadjectivea kind of person"We'll not see his like again"; "I can't tolerate people of his ilk"like, similaradjectiveresembling or similar; having the same or some of the same characteristics; often used in combination"suits of like design"; "a limited circle of like minds"; "members of the cat family have like dispositions"; "as like as two peas in a pod"; "doglike devotion"; "a dreamlike quality"like, sameadjectiveequal in amount or value"like amounts"; "equivalent amounts"; "the same amount"; "gave one six blows and the other a like number"; "the same number"alike(p), similar, likeadjectivehaving the same or similar characteristics"all politicians are alike"; "they looked utterly alike"; "friends are generally alike in background and taste"comparable, corresponding, likeverbconforming in every respect"boxes with corresponding dimensions"; "the like period of the preceding year"wish, care, likeverbprefer or wish to do something"Do you care to try this dish?"; "Would you like to come along to the movies?"likeverbfind enjoyable or agreeable"I like jogging"; "She likes to read Russian novels"likeverbbe fond of"I like my nephews"likeverbfeel about or towards; consider, evaluate, or regard"How did you like the President's speech last night?"likeverbwant to have"I'd like a beer now!"LIKEadjectiveEtymology: lic , Saxon; liik, Dutch.1. Resembling; having resemblance. Whom art thou like in thy greatness. Ezek. xxxi. 2. His son, or one of his illustrious name,How like the former, and almost the same. John Dryden, Æn. As the earth was designed for the being of men, why might not all other planets be created for the like uses, each for their own inhabitants. Richard Bentley, Sermons. This plan, as laid down by him, looks liker an universal art than a distinct logick. Thomas Baker, Reflect. on Learning.2. Equal; of the same quantity. More clergymen were impoverished by the late war, than ever in the like space before. Thomas Sprat, Sermons.3. [For likely.] Probable; credible. The trials were made, and it is like that the experiment would have been effectual. Francis Bacon, Natural History.4. Likely; in a state that gives probable expectations. This is, I think, an improper, though frequent, use. If the duke continues these favours towards you, you are like to be much advanced. William Shakespeare, Twelfth Night. He is like to die for hunger, for there is no more bread. Jer. xxxviii. 9. The yearly value thereof is already increased double of that it was within these few years, and is like daily to rise higher, till it amount to the price of our land in England. Davies. Hopton resolved to visit Waller’s quarters, that he might judge whether he were like to pursue his purpose. Edward Hyde. Many were not easy to be governed, nor like to conform themselves to strict rules. Edward Hyde, b. viii. If his rules of reason be not better suited to the Mind than his rules for health are fitted to our bodies, he is not like to be much followed. Thomas Baker, Reflections on Learning.Likeadverb1. In the same manner; in the same manner as. The joyous nymphs, and lightfoot fairies,Which thither came to hear their musick sweet;Now hearing them so heavily lament,Like heavily lamenting from them went. Edmund Spenser. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. Psal. ciii. 13. Are