

So and such

A Study these examples:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I didn't enjoy the book. The story was so stupid. <p>We use so + <i>adjective/adverb</i>:</p> <p>so stupid so quick so nice so quickly</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I didn't enjoy the book. It was such a stupid story. <p>We use such + <i>noun</i>:</p> <p>such a story such people</p> <p>We use such + <i>adjective + noun</i>:</p> <p>such a stupid story such nice people</p> <p>Note that we say such a... (<i>not</i> 'a such...')</p>
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B So and **such** make the meaning of an adjective (or adverb) stronger:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It's a lovely day, isn't it? It's so warm. (= really warm) ● He's difficult to understand because he speaks so quickly. <p>Compare so and such in these sentences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I like Tom and Ann. They are so nice. <p>You can use so...that...:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The book was so good that I couldn't put it down. ● I was so tired that I fell asleep in the armchair. <p>You can leave out that in sentences like this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I was so tired (that) I fell asleep. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We enjoyed our holiday. We had such a good time. (= a really good time) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I like Tom and Ann. They are such nice people. (<i>not</i> 'so nice people') <p>You can use such...that...:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It was such a good book that I couldn't put it down. ● It was such lovely weather that we spent the whole day on the beach. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It was such lovely weather (that) we...
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C We also use **so** and **such** with the meaning 'like this':

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I was surprised to find out that the house was built 100 years ago. I didn't realise it was so old. (as old as it is) ● I expected the weather to be much cooler. I didn't expect it to be so warm. ● I'm tired because I got up at 6 o'clock. I don't usually get up so early. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I didn't realise it was such an old house. ● The house was so untidy. I've never seen such a mess. (= a mess like this) <p>Note the expression no such...:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● You won't find the word 'blid' in an English dictionary because there is no such word. (= this word does not exist)
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D We say: **so long but such** a long time:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I haven't seen her for so long I've forgotten what she looks like. <p>so far but such a long way:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I didn't know it was so far. <p>so much, so many but such a lot (of):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Why did you buy so much food? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I haven't seen her for such a long time. (<i>not</i> 'a so long time') ● I didn't know it was such a long way. ● Why did you buy such a lot of food?
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EXERCISES

101.1 Put in *so*, *such* or *such a*.

- 1 He's difficult to understand because he speaks ...*so*... quickly.
- 2 I like Tom and Ann. They're ...*such*... nice people.
- 3 It was a great holiday. We had ...*such a*... good time.
- 4 I was surprised that he looked well after his recent illness.
- 5 Everything is expensive these days, isn't it?
- 6 The weather is lovely, isn't it? I didn't expect it to be nice day.
- 7 I have to go. I didn't realise it was late.
- 8 He always looks good. He wears nice clothes.
- 9 It was boring film that I fell asleep while I was watching it.
- 10 I couldn't believe the news. It was shock.
- 11 I think she works too hard. She looks tired all the time.
- 12 The food at the hotel was awful. I've never eaten awful food.
- 13 They've got much money, they don't know what to do with it.
- 14 I didn't realise you lived long way from the city centre.
- 15 I can't decide what to do. It's problem.

101.2 Make one sentence from two. Use *so* or *such*.

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| 1 She worked hard. | You could hear it from miles away. |
| 2 It was a beautiful day. | You would think it was her native language. |
| 3 I was tired. | We spent the whole day indoors. |
| 4 We had a good time on holiday. | She made herself ill. |
| 5 She speaks English well. | I couldn't keep my eyes open. |
| 6 I've got a lot of things to do. | I didn't eat anything else for the rest of the day. |
| 7 The music was loud. | We decided to go to the beach. |
| 8 I had a big breakfast. | I don't know where to begin. |
| 9 It was horrible weather. | We didn't want to come home. |

- 1 She worked so hard she made herself ill.
- 2 It was such a beautiful day we decided to go to the beach.
- 3 I was
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9

101.3 Use your own ideas to complete these pairs of sentences.

- 1 a We enjoyed our holiday. It was so ...*relaxing*...
- b We enjoyed our holiday. We had such ...*a good time*...
- 2 a I don't like London very much. It's so
- b I don't like London very much. It's such
- 3 a I like Ann. She's so
- b I like Ann. She's such
- 4 a I wouldn't like to be a teacher. It's so
- b I wouldn't like to be a teacher. It's such
- 5 a It's great to see you again! I haven't seen you for so
- b It's great to see you again! I haven't seen you for such

UNIT 101

101.1

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| 4 so | 10 such a |
| 5 so | 11 so |
| 6 such a | 12 so ... such |
| 7 so | 13 so |
| 8 such | 14 such a |
| 9 such a | 15 such a |

101.2

- 3 I was so tired (that) I couldn't keep my eyes open.
- 4 We had such a good time on holiday (that) we didn't want to come home.
- 5 She speaks English so well (that) you would think it was her native language. *or* She speaks such good English (that)...

- 6 I've got such a lot of things to do (that) I don't know where to begin.
or I've got so many things to do (that)...
- 7 The music was so loud (that) you could hear it from miles away.
- 8 I had such a big breakfast (that) I didn't eat anything else for the rest of the day.
- 9 It was such horrible weather (that) we spent the whole day indoors.

101.3

Example answers:

- 2 a It's so oppressive.
b It's such an oppressive place.
- 3 a She's so friendly.
b She's such a friendly person.
- 4 a It's so exhausting.
b It's such an exhausting job.
- 5 a I haven't seen you for so long.
b I haven't seen you for such a long time.