

Grammar

Practice A

Use the prompts to write sentences with *as . . . as* or *not as . . . as*.

1. autumn/cold/winter

Autumn is not as cold as winter.

2. in the winter months, California/cold/New York
-

3. September/popular/July for vacations in North America
-

4. in the fall, plants/grow/fast/in spring
-

5. days in summer/short/days in winter
-

6. food in this restaurant/spicy/that restaurant
-

7. night life in this city/exciting/night life in my hometown
-

8. pollution here/bad/pollution in the country
-

9. new tablet from Apple/good/new tablet from Microsoft
-

10. cost of living in Thailand/expensive/cost of living in Singapore
-

Practice B

Use the prompts to write sentences with *so . . . that*.

1. movie/exciting/saw it twice

The movie was so exciting that I saw it twice.

2. book/good/I finished it in one day

3. food/bad/he couldn't eat it

4. child/clever/she graduated from college at 18

5. class/boring/they fell asleep

6. weather/cold/water in the glass froze

7. party/noisy/he couldn't talk

8. TV drama/sad/I cried

Practice C

Circle the correct word.

1. I think (everybody / anybody) enjoyed the concert.
2. I can't find my cell phone (nowhere / anywhere).
3. The city was empty. There was (no one / anybody) there.
4. We had a fantastic vacation. (Someone / Everything) was perfect.
5. Hello? Is (anyone / anything) there?
6. I'm sorry but there is (no one / nothing) I can do to help.
7. (Somebody / Everybody) should be equal.
8. Let's travel to (somewhere / anything) exotic.

Reading

A. Read the text.

Things I Did to Be Cool

How far would you go to be “in”? We asked people what they did during their school years to be cool. Here are some of their answers.

Shaved my head to impress older wrestlers

When I was 13, I wanted to get onto the **wrestling** team. I shaved my head bald so the older wrestlers would think I was cool. It didn’t work. They laughed at me, and so did the kids my age. The worst thing was how long it took my hair to grow back. I looked like a hedgehog for ages! *LR*

Cuffed my pants

When I was in middle school, the “cool” kids **cuffed** their pants. I wanted to be as cool as them even though most of my pants were a little short anyway. When I cuffed them, they barely covered my calves. I looked **goofy**, but at least I had cuffs! *TS*

Smoked cigarettes

When I was in high school, it was a time when it was still cool to smoke. The sensible students didn’t smoke of course, but there were a few “super-cool” kids who smoked from time to time, usually at parties. So for a while, I tried it, too. I thought that smoking would get me into the cool club. Well, it didn’t, and the cigarettes were horrible. I stopped when my friends told me I smelled like an ashtray! *JW*

Permed my hair

Perms were all the rage in high school. All the cool girls had them. So I got my long, thick, beautiful hair **transformed** into a short, layered, curly bob. The results were terrible. I looked like a 16-year-old with 60-year-old hair. I won’t do that again—well, maybe I will when I’m 60! *RV*

Filled my closet with brand-name clothes

In junior high, I bought only expensive brand-name clothes—THE clothes to wear. I wanted to be “in,” to impress the popular crowd. It made no difference. The cool kids didn’t admit members based on clothes. It was stupid to spend so much money for nothing. And a lot of the money wasn’t even mine. I had to borrow it from my parents. It took years to pay it all back! *SD*

Started a band

What's cooler than playing in a band? That's the best way to become cool, right? Wrong! If you can't play, that is. I started a band with three other friends. I played the lead guitar. It was great at first. We all enjoyed practicing and thought we were pretty good, but when we performed our first—and last—concert, the audience didn't agree. We were **booed** and had to stop halfway. Not cool! DP

- Glossary:**
- wrestling (n.)** a sport in which two people fight and try to push each other to the ground (กีฬามวยปล้ำ)
 - cuff (v.)** to fold your pants up to half of your legs (พับขากางเกง)
 - goofy (adj.)** silly (น่าขำ, เซ่อ)
 - transform (v.)** to change someone or something completely, especially in a way that improve them (เปลี่ยนแปลง)
 - boo (v.)** to shout 'boo' to show that you do not like a person, performance, etc. (โห่ไล่)

B. Complete the chart. Write what each person did to be cool, why, and the result.

Person	What they did	Reason	Result
LR			
TS			
JW			
RV			
SD			
DP			