103 "So" and "such"

"So" and "such" are adverbs which can be used with certain words to add emphasis. They are similar in meaning, but they are used in different structures.

See also:

Adjectives **92** Comparative adjectives **94** Adverbs of manner **98** Comparative and superlative adverbs **99**

103.1 "SO" AND "SUCH"

Unlike most adverbs, "such" can be used before a noun to add emphasis. It can also be used before an adjective and noun combination.

"SUCH" + "A/AN" + NOUN

The trial was such a success.



HP

"Such" + "a / an" is more common with extreme nouns rather than neutral ones.

"SUCH" + "A/AN" + ADJECTIVE + NOUN

It was such an important experiment

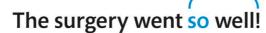


"**So**" can be used before an adjective or an adverb to add emphasis. "SO" + ADJECTIVE

The reaction is so dangerous.



"SO" + ADVERB





TIP

"So" is never used on its own before comparative words.

"So much" is used before a comparative adjective or a comparative adverb to add stronger emphasis.

"SO MUCH" + COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVE

This hospital is so much cleaner than that other one.



"SO MUCH" + COMPARATIVE ADVERB

Diseases spread so much faster as a result of air travel.



103.2 "SO" AND "SUCH" WITH "THAT"

"That" can be used with "so" and "such" to introduce a particular result caused by the fact being emphasized.

"SUCH" + "A/AN" + NOUN + "THAT"



The disease is such a mystery that it doesn't even have a name yet.

"SUCH" + "A/AN" + ADJECTIVE + NOUN + "THAT"



This is such a strange injury that it is hard to diagnose.

"SO" + ADJECTIVE + "THAT"



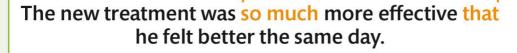
Medical research is so expensive that drugs are often costly.

"SO" + ADVERB + "THAT"



He recovered so quickly that he was able to go home the next day.

"SO MUCH" + COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVE + "THAT"





"SO MUCH" + COMPARATIVE ADVERB + "THAT"

