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## Grammar Reference

### 1. The indefinite possessive

- The expression  
'a' + **object** + 'of' + **subject** + 's'  
is used to express the **possessive case** when the object is indefinite.

Example: She's **a** colleague **of my brother's**.

- The similar expression  
'a' + **object** + 'of' + **possessive pronoun**  
is used with **possessive pronouns**.

Example: Peter is **a** nice cousin **of mine**.

- This same construction is possible with the negative article '**no**'.

Example: He is **no** friend **of mine**.

### 2. Similarity: 'like' and 'as'

- The preposition '**like**' introduces **nominal groups** and **pronouns**.

Example: **Like** most **students**, I love pizza.  
I wish I had a garden **like that**.

- The conjunction '**as**' introduces **clauses**.

Example: Some women felt **as I did** about it.

Note. '**As**' may also precede nouns designating **titles** and **functions**.

Example: I am the company's manager and am therefore acting **as** legal representative.  
He worked **as** a taxi driver.

### 3. Expressions with 'to have'

- In certain expressions, '**to have**' has precise meanings and is conjugated with the **auxiliary 'do'**. Some common ones are '**to have a bath**', '**to have lunch**', '**to have a rest**', and '**to have a look**'.

*Example:* Did you **have a bath** last night?  
We'll **have lunch** in a typical New Orleans restaurant.

- These expressions can take **progressive** and **imperative** forms.

*Example:* They're **having a rest** on the terrace.  
**Let's have a look** at the models first.

- One way to **analyze causes and consequences** relating to a present situation or to **make predictions about the future** is to use the construction **to have reason to + infinitive**. You can use this construction to assess current conditions or problems or to predict how a situation might evolve.

*Example:* They **have reason to worry** about the contract. The client didn't seem convinced during the last meeting.

Since demand is so high, we **have reason to believe** that sales will continue to climb this year.

Considering that last year brought such good results, we **have reason to hope** for continued success.

- To **specify** what the **topic** of something is, you can use the expression **to have to do with**.

You may use **to have to do with** to **summarize** the **theme, contents or main ideas** of something. You may also use this expression during **telephone conversations** to say what the **topic of the call** is.

**To have to do with** is often **preceded** by **it**.

*Example:* **Caller:** Hi Mr. Silva, this is the customer service rep. from Bob's Electronics calling.

**Mr. Silva:** Hi. Does this **have to do with** my refund?

I'm not sure why we're having a meeting, but I think it **has to do with** the lost files.

The report **has to do with** our financial results for last quarter.

A negative form is **to have nothing to do with**. You may use this expression to specify that the subject or topic of something is **not** what it was **expected** to be, or to say that something **has no relation** to something else.

*Example:* I attended the seminar because I wanted to improve my presentation skills. But the seminar **had nothing to do with** presentations!

Our current problems **have nothing to do with** the economy.

This **has nothing to do with** the project, but does anyone want to go to lunch?

#### 4. Adjectives ending in -ing

**Gerunds** ('-ing' verb forms) may be used as **adjectives**. They generally have active meanings in this case.

*Example:* This view is really **exhilarating**.  
That was a **disappointing** day.  
These **self-sticking** stamps don't stick!