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Grammar Reference

1 'Had better' - 'Would rather'

'**Had better**' and '**would rather**' precede **infinitives without 'to'** and may refer to the present or the future.

A - 'Had better'

- '**Had better**' ('-**d better**,' contracted) expresses a **firm suggestion** or an **order**.

Example:

You **had better tell** her the bad news.

You'**d better accept** it for your career's sake.

- The **negative** of '**had better**' is as follows:

had better + not + infinitive.

Example: You'**d better not forget** my birthday.

Note. '**Had**' (or '-**d**') is often omitted, particularly in speech.

Example: You **better** not shout.

B - 'Would rather'

- '**Would rather**' conveys **preference**.

Example: **Would** you **rather** stay inside or go for a walk?

I'**d rather** go for a swim.

- Its **negative** is '**would rather not.**'

Example: I'**d rather not** go.

2 'Each other' - 'One another'

- The plural and invariable reciprocal pronouns '**each other**' and '**one another**' are, in practice, interchangeable. Nevertheless, in theory, '**each other**' follows subjects made up of only **two** elements, and '**one another**' refers to those composed of **more than two** elements.

Example: **Forrest** and **Nancy** love **each other**.
Members of the family may turn to **one another** for support.

- '**Each other**' and '**one another**' are **inseparable** expressions when they are used with **prepositions**.

Example: I put the suppliers in competition **against each other**.
The children are sitting **opposite one another**.

- '**Each other**' and '**one another**' can be used in the **possessive**.

Example: They took **each other's** hands.
We often meet at **one another's** places.