

~ Be Fluent ~



Fluency is our Goal!

**SPEAK  
FLUENTLY &  
CONFIDENTLY**

**A2- COURSE 1**

## SESSION 1- LIKES & DISLIKES



**Part 1-: Likes, Dislikes ( Listening)**

**Part 2: What would you say in the following situations? ( Idioms & collocations)**

**Part 3: Speaking Practice**

## SESSION 3- LIKES & DISLIKES



# Part 1 -: Likes, Dislikes, & Preferences ( Listening )

<https://befluent.me/>

## Lesson 1: Likes, Dislikes, & Preferences

**Todd:** So, Meg, what do you like to do in your free time?

**Meg:** Actually, I love cooking. I like to try new dishes and I love baking as well.

**Todd:** Oh, nice. That's interesting. Because I hate cooking.

**Meg:** Oh, really?

**Todd:** Yeah. And I don't know anything about baking, but I like cleaning. Cleaning is relaxing.

**Meg:** Really? Is that true?

**Todd:** Yeah. Really, I like cleaning. So, my house is usually very clean.

**Meg:** My house is usually clean also, but I don't like cleaning very much.

**Todd:** Yeah, I think most people don't like cleaning. But some people think cleaning is relaxing. Like me.

**Meg:** That's true. What else do you like to do?

**Todd:** Well, I like exercising. I like going to the gym. I like listening to podcasts. So, I listen to a lot of podcasts a lot. I like surfing the internet. And sometimes, I enjoy reading books.

**Meg:** I also enjoy reading books when I have time.

**Todd:** But these days, I often listen to books instead. I listen to audio books.

## Lesson 1: Likes, Dislikes, & Preferences

**Meg:** Oh really?

**Todd:** Yeah, I like listening to audio books.

**Meg:** Why?

**Todd:** Because I can exercise at the same time.

**Meg:** So, exercising and reading at the same time.

**Todd:** Yeah, it's fun. So, I love jogging and I go jogging almost every day, usually for one hour. I listen to audio books when I jog.

**Meg:** So, you can do two things at once.

**Todd:** Very important. Multitasking. I love multitasking.

**Meg:** Sounds like you're good at multitasking.

**Todd:** Let's talk about outdoor activities. Do you like doing yard work?

**Meg:** I don't *especially* like doing yard work. But right now, I don't have a yard. So, doing yard work isn't something I have to worry about. What about you?

## Lesson 1: Likes, Dislikes, & Preferences

**Todd:** I like doing yard work. I think it's very relaxing. It's like cleaning. So, I enjoy it. But like you, I don't have a yard. So, now I don't do yard work very much. Or I can't do yard work.

**Meg:** So, you like gardening if you have a yard?

**Todd:** Yeah. I grew up on a big house. So, we have lots of yard work, lots of gardening. So, yeah.

**Meg:** Right.

**Todd:** But what about other things like hiking, do you like hiking?

**Meg:** I love hiking. Anything that is in nature, I love doing. I love hiking. I love kayaking. I love canoing. Any outdoor sports. Do you like hiking?

**Todd:** I do. *I'm with you.* I love hiking. What about things like rock climbing?

**Meg:** I have never been rock climbing. Have you gone rock climbing?

**Todd:** No. Rock climbing looks dangerous. So, I'm still scared.

**Meg:** Yeah,

**Todd:** So, I've never done rock climbing either. What about things like singing and dancing? Do you enjoy singing and dancing?

## Lesson 1: Likes, Dislikes, & Preferences

**Meg:** I enjoy singing, but I'm not very good at it. So, I like singing when I'm alone or in my car. Are you good at singing?

**Todd:** No, I'm terrible at singing. So, I hate singing. I really, really hate singing. But I like going to karaoke and listening to people sing.

**Meg:** Yeah, some people are really good at singing. What about dancing?

**Todd:** I hate dancing too. Yeah, I'm not good at dancing. So, dancing is very embarrassing for me. I don't like it.

**Meg:** I'm not good at dancing *either*.

**Todd:** Are there any other activities you really dislike doing? Like for me, I hate writing letters. For example, I don't like writing thank you letters. I don't like writing anything with my hand. Typing is okay. I *don't mind* typing things, but I hate writing.

**Meg:** So, using your hand to write, you hate writing?

**Todd:** Yeah, I like typing. Fingers is okay. Thumb is okay on the phone. I don't mind texting, I don't mind typing. I just don't like physically writing with a pencil or a pen.

**Meg:** Yeah. Pen or a pencil, like writing a letter.

**Todd:** Right. Because my writing is really bad, and it's hard to read. So, it's embarrassing.

## Lesson 1: Likes, Dislikes, & Preferences

**Meg:** I'm sure it's fine.

**Todd:** Yeah. How about you? For example, do you like iron in your clothes?

**Meg:** I don't like having my clothes, but my clothes usually don't need ironing, so I don't have to worry about it too much. I don't like doing laundry. It's related to ironing clothes. So, it takes a long time. And the clothes, I have to dry the clothes. So, doing laundry is a little bit boring for me.

**Todd:** I don't mind doing laundry if I go to the coin laundry, but I hate hanging my laundry out. I hate hanging out my laundry. It *takes forever*. I don't know why, you put it out, you take it back in, it just takes so much time.

**Meg:** That's funny. *I'm kind of the opposite*. I don't mind hanging out my laundry, because I like saving money, so I don't have to use money at the coin laundry.

**Todd:** Plus, you are helping the environment.

**Meg:** That's true. I like helping the earth.

**Todd:** Yeah, I should change. Okay. Thanks Meg.

**Meg:** Yeah.



# Lesson 1: Likes, Dislikes, & Preferences

## Vocabulary from the Lesson

### especially

I don't *especially* like doing yard work.

The adverb 'especially' shows a stronger feeling about one thing compared to other things. Notice the following:



1. I love playing sports, especially basketball.
2. I do not like scary movies, especially ones about ghosts.

### I'm with you

*I'm with you.* I love hiking.

Here, the phrase 'I'm with you' means the person has the same opinion or feeling about something. Notice the following:



1. Oh, you don't like Marvel movies. I'm with you. I hate them.
2. I'm with you. I don't like going to Karaoke either.

### either

I'm not good at dancing *either*.

The word 'either' is similar to 'too' or 'also' and it is used to show that two negative things are similar or related. Notice the following:



1. I cannot drive. My wife cannot drive either.
2. She does not work on Saturdays. I don't either.

### don't mind

*don't mind* typing things, but I hate writing.

When you don't mind doing something that means you do not dislike it. You might not love it, but you do not dislike it. Notice the following:



1. I don't mind working on the holidays.
2. I don't mind taking the bus to work. I can read on my commute.

### it takes forever

It *takes forever*.

When something takes forever that means it takes a very long time. Notice the following:



1. It takes forever to drive across town on weekends due to traffic.
2. If you want to lose weight, it might take forever, but be patient.

### kind of the opposite

That's funny. *I'm kind of the opposite.*

Here, when someone says they are the opposite that means they have a different, or opposite, feeling about something. Notice the following:

1. My wife loves staying home, but I'm kind of the opposite.

My dad is very talkative, but mom is kind of the opposite.

# Vocabulary Quiz

**especially • with you • either  
mind • takes forever**

Top of Form

1. Most people don't      waiting in line, but not for too long .
2. I agree. I'm      on that point.
3. I like surfing, but it      to get to the beach.
4. I love sports,      team sports like soccer.
5. I do not like golf, and my wife does not like it      .

# Lesson 1: Likes, Dislikes, & Preferences

. Answer the following questions about the interview.

1) Who likes cleaning?

- ☐ a) He does.
- ☐ b) She does.
- ☐ c) Both of them.

2) Who likes cooking?

- ☐ a) He does.
- ☐ b) She does.
- ☐ c) Both of them.

3) What do they both dislike?

- ☐ a) Singing
- ☐ b) Dancing
- ☐ c) Ironing

4) Who does not like yard work?

- ☐ a) Meg
- ☐ b) Todd
- ☐ c) They do not say

5) What do they both enjoy?

- ☐ a) Audio books
- ☐ b) Being in nature
- ☐ c) Watching movies

Answers:

## Lesson 1: Likes, Dislikes, & Preferences

*Answer the following questions about the interview.*

1) Who likes cleaning?

- ☒ a) He does.
- ☐ b) She does.
- ☐ c) Both of them.

2) Who likes cooking?

- ☐ a) He does.
- ☒ b) She does.
- ☐ c) Both of them.

3) What do they both dislike?

- ☐ a) Singing
- ☒ b) Dancing
- ☐ c) Ironing

4) Who does not like yard work?

- ☒ a) Meg
- ☐ b) Todd
- ☐ c) They do not say

5) What do they both enjoy?

- ☐ a) Audio books
- ☒ b) Being in nature
- ☐ c) Watching movies

## SESSION 3- LIKES & DISLIKES



**Part 2: What would you say in the following situations? ( Idioms & collocations)**

## Phrases for liking something:

- “I like...”

*I like... Italian food / rock music / learning languages.*

*Your sentence: I like \_*

- “I like it a lot.” / “I really like...” (more common)

*I like... this restaurant / my teacher ...a lot.*

*I really like... my new apartment / playing tennis / my boyfriend's parents.*

*Your sentence: I really like \_\_\_\_\_*

- “I love...”

*I love your haircut! / I love to read. / I love the way he writes. Your sentence:*

*I love \_\_\_\_\_*

- “I absolutely love...”

*I absolutely love this dress. / I absolutely love traveling with my family.*

*Your sentence: I absolutely love \_\_\_\_\_*



These are the most common expressions. “I like” is the weakest, and “I absolutely love...” is the strongest. You can use “like” and “love” for both nouns (like food, houses/apartments, music, movies, books, etc.) and verbs (reading, learning, playing tennis, etc.)

As mentioned in a previous lesson, after “like” and “love” you can use either the “to” form or the -ing form of the verb with no difference in meaning. I like to read = I like reading.

### Note:

Be careful not to make the common mistake of saying “I like very much this city” – the correct way to say it is: “I like this city very much.”

Here are a few phrases for liking things that are used in more specific situations:

- **“I'm fond of...”**

*This phrase is used when you have a special, warm, emotional attachment to something. For example, you could say, “I’m fond of this photo. It was taken on our honeymoon.” The expression “I’m fond of...” can also be used for **people**.*

*Your sentence: I’m fond of \_\_\_\_*

- **“I'm crazy about...” / “I'm really into...”**

*Both of these phrases are informal.*

*Your sentence: I’m crazy about \_\_\_\_*

- **“It's right up [one's] alley.”**

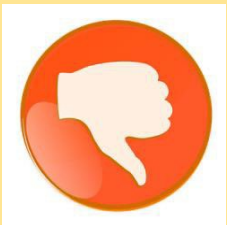
*This expression means that some activity is perfect for a person’s personality and interests. If Denise enjoys marketing and design, then the new website project is “right up her alley.”*

*Your sentence: \_\_\_\_\_ is right up my alley.*

- **“I didn't like it at first, but then it grew on me.”**

*Use this phrase when you didn’t like something initially, but then you began to like it as time passed.*

*Your sentence: I didn’t like \_\_\_\_ at first, but then it grew on me.*



### **Phrases for disliking something:**

We don't usually say "I dislike" in English. It's more typical to say "I don't like..." However, depending on the situation, you might want to express your dislike more indirectly. These phrases are diplomatic and polite ways to say you don't like something:

- **“I'm not a big fan of...”**

*I’m not a big fan of horror movies.*

*Your sentence: I’m not a big fan of \_\_\_\_.*

- **“I don't care for...”**

*I don't care for spicy food.*

*Your sentence: I don't care for \_\_\_\_.*

- **“I'm not crazy about...”**

*I'm not crazy about this painting.*

*Your sentence: I'm not crazy about \_\_\_\_.*

- **“I don't really like...”**

*I don't really like going to parties where I don't know anybody. I don't really like my sister-in-law.*

*I don't really like video games.*

*Your sentence: I don't really like \_\_\_\_.*

- **“It's not my thing. / It's not my cup of tea.”**

*Skiing is not my thing.*

*Going to nightclubs is not my cup of tea.*

*These expressions are used only for activities, not for people or objects. Your sentence: \_\_\_\_ is not my thing.*

The first three phrases are most typically used with **objects**. The last phrases are used for **activities**. And the phrase “I don't really like...” can be used for **people**, **objects**, or **activities**.

If you want to express *strong* dislike, you can use these phrases:

- **“I can't stand...”**

*I can't stand Margaret. She talks too much!*

*I can't stand it when people call me and don't leave a message. Your sentence: I can't stand \_\_\_\_.*

- **“I don't like it at all.”**

*I don't like this hotel at all.*

*I don't like Peter at all. He seems dishonest.*

*Your sentence: I don't like \_\_\_\_ at all.*

- **“I hate...”**

*I hate tomatoes.*

*I hate going out in the rain. Your sentence: I hate \_\_\_\_.*





The expression “I can’t stand...” is used more for *annoying* things. “I don’t like it at all” is a strong statement of dislike, and “I hate...” is the strongest statement. A few other words for “hate” are **loathe**, **detest**, and **despise**, although these are less common.

One very common structure is to say “I hate it when...” or “I can’t stand it when...” and then describe the situation that angers or annoys you.

In the conversation, we actually heard a *less* strong way to use the word “hate” – Denise said, “I hate to delay the project any further.” This way of using the word “hate” means something more like “I don’t want to delay the project any further” or “I think it’s unfortunate to delay the project any further.”

Finally, what do you say if you have no preference? Here are a few options:

**Which one do you prefer? Which one do you like better?**

- **“It doesn’t matter to me.”**
- **“It makes no difference to me.”**
- **“It’s all the same to me.”**
- **“I don’t care. / I couldn’t care less.”**

*These phrases – especially the second one – are a little bit rude.*

- **“It’s up to you. / It’s your decision. / It’s your call.”**  
*Say these when you don’t have a preference, and you want the other person to make the decision.*

### ► Expressing Likes In English

► Here are some English phrases and words to say what you like:

- I adore
- I love
- I like
- I enjoy
- I'm into something
- I have a soft spot for something
- I'm quite keen on
- I think .... is/are brilliant ...

# SESSION 3- LIKES & DISLIKES



## Expressing Likes In English

Here are some English phrases and words to say what you like:

- I adore e.g.
  - I love
  - I like
  - I enjoy
  - I'm into something
  - I have a soft spot for something
  - I'm quite keen on
  - I think .... is/are brilliant ...
- 
- ▶ **I ADORE** having a massage after work. It helps me to relax.
  - ▶ **I LOVE** shopping for clothes in the sales. I've got some great bargains.
  - ▶ **I'M INTO** making music.
  - ▶ **I LIKE** inviting my friends around for dinner. I ENJOY cooking a special meal for them.
  - ▶ **I LIKE** ice-cream
  - ▶ **I HAVE A SOFT SPOT** for Sarah
  - ▶ I'm **QUITE KEEN ON** learning new languages
  - ▶ **I THINK** Mark's idea **IS BRILLIANT**
  - ▶ **ADORE** here suggests a strong feeling of pleasure.

# SESSION 1- LIKES & DISLIKES



## ▶ Expressing Dislikes In English

- ▶ Here are some words in English to express things that you don't like: I detest, I hate, I loathe, I'm not keen on, I can't stand, I can't bear ...
- ▶ For example:
- ▶ **I'M NOT KEEN ON** watching soap operas.
- ▶ **I DETEST** being stuck in a traffic jam.
- ▶ **I HATE** Mondays!
- ▶ **I LOATHE** visiting the dentist.
- ▶ **I CAN'T STAND** Paula's new boyfriend
- ▶ Shopping **DRIVES ME CRAZY**
- ▶ Both **I CAN'T STAND** and **I CAN'T BEAR** mean **I HATE**.
- ▶ **DETEST** and **LOATHE** suggest strong feelings. These are things that you really don't like doing, whereas **I'M NOT KEEN ON** expresses a preference.

**Note:** We can use pronouns, nouns or verb **+ING** when we are expressing likes and dislikes in English:

- ▶ *I love it.*
- ▶ *I hate football.*
- ▶ *Waiting in queues drives me crazy.*

## Part 3: Speaking Practice

## SESSION 1- LIKES & DISLIKES



- Do you like music?
- What kind of music do you like?
- Who are your favorite singers or bands?
- Do you like music or musicians from other countries as well? If so, who or what kind?
- Can you name some singers or groups that you dislike.

- Do you like to watch TV?
- Do you like movies?
- What are your favorite kinds of programs or shows?
- Who are your favorite actors?
- Do you like programs or shows from other countries as well? If so, what kind?
- Do you like actors from other countries as well? If so, who?
- What kinds of programs or which actors don't you like?

- Do you like movies?
- What are your favorite kinds of movies?
- What are your all time favorite movies?
- Who are your favorite actors?
- Do you like movies from other countries as well? If so, what kind?
- Do you like actors from other countries as well? If so, who?
- What kinds of movies or which actors don't you like?

<https://be Fluent.me/>

## SESSION 1- LIKES & DISLIKES

- Do you like sports?
- What are your favorite kinds of sports?
- Who are your favorite athletes?
- Do you like sports from other countries as well? If so, what kind?
- Do you like athletes from other countries as well? If so, who?
- Which athletes don't you like?
- Do you like reading?
- Do you like books?
- Do you like reading books offline or online?
- What are your favorite kinds of books?
- What are your favorite book titles?
- Who are your favorite authors?



## SESSION 1- LIKES & DISLIKES



- What is your favorite color?
- What is your least favorite color?
- Do you like house work?
- What is your favorite chore?
- What is your least favorite chore?
- Name a chore that you loathe.
- Do you like pets? Do you have one?
- What is your favorite pet?
- ▶ Do you like wearing make-up?
- ▶ Do you read beauty magazines? ?
- ▶ What's your opinion of beauty pageants like Miss Universe?
- ▶ How have our ideas about beauty changed generally? What does this tell us?
- “No Make-Up Day”: would this be a good idea?

<https://befluent.me/>



Thank you!😊