an-y-thing si wi

/'eni θ ıŋ/ pronoun

1 ALL/EVERYTHING any thing, event, situation etc, when it is not important to say exactly which:

You can buy anything you want.

He was prepared to do anything to make a bit of money.

Anything would be better than staying at home!

You can write about swimming, skiing, or anything else you enjoy doing.

2 THING used in questions to mean 'something':

Is there anything I can do to help?

Do you want anything from the shops?

Would you like anything else to eat?

3 used in negative sentences to mean no thing event etc:

We didn't have anything to eat for three days.

Don't do anything until we get there.

4 anything but NOT

used to emphasize that someone or something does not have a particular quality:

Maria is anything but stupid!

5 LIKE/SIMILAR anything like somebody/something

similar in any way to someone or something else:

You don't look anything like your mother.

If you're anything like me, you'll want to be where the action is.

6 NOT not anything like/near (spoken)

used to emphasize a negative sentence:

We don't have anything like enough money to buy a new car.

7 as important/clear/big etc as anything VERY (informal)

extremely important, clear etc:

He was as nice as anything to me.

8 or anything LIKE/SIMILAR (Spoken)

or something that is similar:

Would you like a drink or anything?

9 anything goes (informal)

used to say that anything someone says or does is acceptable:

From what other people were wearing, it looked like anything goes.

10 for anything (informal)

if you will not do something for anything, you will definitely not do it:

I wouldn't go back there for anything.

11 like anything (informal)

if you do something like anything, you do it a lot:

We all encouraged him like anything.

12 if anything (spoken)

used when you are adding something to emphasize what you have just said:

Sam didn't seem too disappointed at losing. If anything, he seemed relieved that it was all over.

13 AGREEANYthing you say (spoken)

used to tell someone you agree with what they suggest:

Yes, of course, anything you say.

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

© Pearson Education Limited 2009, 2011, 2015