

as<sup>2</sup> S1 W1  
conjunction

1 COMPARE Used in comparisons:

**as... as**

*They want peace as much as we do.*

*Helen comes to visit me as often as she can.*

*I can't run as fast as I used to.*

2 in the way that someone says or that something happens, or in the condition something is in:

*Do as I say!*

*We'd better leave things as they are until the police arrive.*

*The money was repaid, as promised.*

*He did not need to keep moving house, as his father had.*

*Roberta was late **as usual** (= in the way that she usually was).*

3 used to say that what you are saying is already known or has been stated before:

*David, as you know, has not been well lately.*

*As I explained on the phone, your request will be considered at the next meeting.*

*As Napoleon once said, attack is the best method of defence.*

4 DURINGWHEN while or when:

*I saw Peter as I was getting off the bus.*

*As time passed, things seemed to get worse.*

*Just as the two men were leaving, a message arrived.*

5 BECAUSE used to state why a particular situation exists or why someone does something:

*As it was getting late, I turned around to start for home.*

*We asked Philip to come with us, as he knew the road.*

**6** **ALTHOUGH** **though:**

*Unlikely as it might seem, I'm tired too.*

*Try as she might, Sue couldn't get the door open.*

*As popular as he is, the President hasn't always managed to have his own way.*

**7** **as for somebody/something** **ABOUT**

used when you are starting to talk about someone or something new that is connected with what you were talking about before:

*Kitty's got so thin. And as for Carl, he always seems to be ill.*

*You can ask the others, but as for myself, I'll be busy in the office.*

**8** **as yet** [used in negatives] **NOW**

until and including the present time – used to say that something has not happened although it may happen in the future:

*We've had no word from Colin as yet.*

**9** **as if.../as though...** **WAY/MANNER**

**a)**

in a way that makes it seem that something is true or that something is happening:

*It sounds as though she's been really ill.*

*Gary was behaving as though nothing had happened.*

*Mrs Crump looked as if she was going to explode.*

*Beckworth shook his head as if to say 'Don't trust her'.*

**b)**

used to emphasize that something is not true or will not happen:

*She said she'd never speak to me again. As if I cared (= I do not care at all).*

*'Don't try any funny business, now.' 'As if I would.'*

**As if!** (spoken) (informal) :

*He asked if I'd go out with him. As if (= it is extremely unlikely that I would go out with him)!*

## 10 it's not as if UNTRUE

used to say that something cannot be the explanation for a situation or someone's behaviour because it is not true:

*Why do they never go on holiday? I mean it's not as if they're poor is it?*

*I don't know why you're so frightened of her, it's not as if she's got any power over you.*

## 11 as it is

### a) TRUE

because of the situation that actually exists – used when that situation is different from what you expected or needed:

*They hoped to finish the kitchen by Friday, but as it is they'll probably have to come back next week.*

### b) NOW

already:

*Just keep quiet – you're in enough trouble as it is.*

## 12 as from/of something NOW

starting from a particular time or date and continuing:

*As from today, you are in charge of the office.*

*As of now, there will be no more paid overtime.*

## 13 as against something COMPARE

in comparison with something:

*Profits this year are \$2.5 million as against \$4 million last year.*

## 14 as to something

### a)

concerning:

*Frank was very uncertain as to whether it was the right job for him.*

*advice as to which suppliers to approach*  
*He kept his rivals guessing as to his real intentions.*

**b) (formal)**

used when you are starting to talk about something new that is connected with what you were talking about before:

*As to our future plans, I think I need only say that the company intends to expand at a steady rate.*

**15 as it were** EXACT

used when describing someone or something in a way that is not quite exact:

*Jim Radcliffe became our idol, as it were, the man we all wanted to be.*

**16 as is/was/does etc (formal)** LIKE/SIMILAR

used to add that what you have said is also true of someone or something else:

*Eve's very tall, as was her mother.*  
*I voted Labour, as did my wife.*

**17 as you do (BrE) (spoken)**

in the way that people usually do something or how they normally behave – often used humorously by people after they have mentioned doing something strange or unusual:

*We talked, exchanged email addresses and phone numbers, as you do on planes.*

*I was driving a Ferrari through town yesterday – as you do – when I saw an old school friend outside the cinema.*

→ **not as such** AT SUCH <sup>(8)</sup>,

→ **as well** AT WELL <sup>1</sup> <sup>(5)</sup>,

→ **as well as** AT WELL <sup>1</sup> <sup>(6)</sup>,

→ **might (just) as well** AT MIGHT <sup>1</sup> <sup>(9)</sup>,

→ **so as to do something** AT SO <sup>2</sup> <sup>(5)</sup>

