

Advanced 3
Unit 3 Language Focus 2
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as if = as though

as if = as though = in a way that suggests something

Point:

We can show an unreal condition with “as if” or “as though” if they are followed by the past tense when we are talking about the present time and when they are followed by the past perfect when we are dealing with the past time.

Example 1:

The teacher has written a very difficult math problem on the board.

*Tom behaves as if he **knows** the solution to the problem.*

⇒ Tom really knows the solution.

Example 2:

The teacher has written a very difficult math problem on the board.

*Robert behaves as if he **knew** the solution to the problem.*

⇒ Robert doesn't really know the solution.

⇒ He's just pretending to know the answer.

Example 3:

*Mary treats us in such a way as if she **were** the queen of the country.*

⇒ She isn't really the queen. She is as arrogant as a queen.

Example 4:

*He behaved as if nothing **had happened**.*

⇒ Something had really happened.

Example 5:

*She acted as though she **had never seen** me before, when I'd just met her at lunch.*

⇒ She knew him/her, but she pretended that she didn't know him/her.

Source:

[Advanced 3 \(anglophone.ir\)](http://anglophone.ir)