

## Renting a Car



### RENTING A CAR

**Peter** talks to **Sam** at the rental car counter about renting a car. **Sam** tells **Peter** about a special offer they're having and helps him understand how the rental fees work.

**Sam:** Hello. How can I help you?

**Peter:** I'd like to rent a car for the weekend.

**Sam:** What size did you *have in mind*?

**Peter:** I'd like your cheapest car, so I guess that would be a compact.

**Sam:** We're *running a special* right now. You can rent a mid-size car for the same price as a compact. It's \$55 a day *inclusive of* tax, plus insurance. It's such a great deal!

**Peter:** Okay, I'll take it.

**Sam:** All right. Let me just print out the agreement ... Here you go, *read that over*, please.

**Peter:** I *can't make heads or tails of* this information. Do I really need insurance? I already have a good auto insurance plan.

**Sam:** Then you're probably *all set*. I do recommend the collision damage waiver.\* It's only \$10 a day. That way, if you *bang up* the car, you won't owe us anything.

**Peter:** I'm sure I won't have an accident, but I'll take it *just in case*.

**Sam:** Very good. If you don't return the car with a full tank of gas, we charge \$9 a gallon to refill it.

**Peter:** Nine bucks a gallon? That's so expensive. It's *highway robbery!*

**Sam:** Be sure to return the car by 5 p.m. on Sunday.

**Peter:** Five? That's going to be *cutting it close*. The conference I'm attending ends at 4:30. What if I get it here at 6 on Sunday?

**Sam:** It'll be another \$65.

**Peter:** There's no *grace period*?

**Sam:** There's a 29 minute grace period. So you could return the car at 5 :29 and still be okay.

**Peter:** Okay, thanks. You've been such a big help.

**Sam:** You're very welcome. Here's the key. The car is in space A4. You're *good to go*.

*\* collision damage waiver - with this optional coverage, the car rental company cannot hold the customer responsible for any damage to the car*

### Language Lens: So and Such

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**So** and **such** are both used to express extremes. They are often used in exclamations (and they are **so** useful!).

#### **So**

=> Use "so" before an adjective (without a noun)

=> Use "so" before an adverb

*Examples with so:*

- ☑ Andy is so good at tennis! NOT: Andy is so good tennis player!
- ☑ Angela's baby is so cute!
- ☑ Jay's new painting is so beautiful. He's so talented!
- ☑ Your house is so beautiful.
- ☑ That was so kind of you!
- ☑ John works so hard.
- ☑ Kristen looked so lovely in her wedding dress.

## Such

=> Use "such" before an adjective + noun

=> Use "such" before a noun

*Note that when the noun is singular, "a" or "an" comes after "such."*

*Examples with such:*

- ☑ That was such a scary movie! NOT: That was so scary movie!
- ☑ That's such a cute baby!
- ☑ You are such a good friend.
- ☑ Phil is such a hard worker.
- ☑ You prepared such a delicious meal.
- ☑ This project is such a headache!
- ☑ Why do you carry such heavy bags?

## Quick Quiz

**Fill in the blank with the missing word:**

1. Emily is \_\_\_\_\_ a nice girl. I love babysitting for her.
  - a)so
  - b)such
2. The movie was \_\_\_\_\_ boring that I could barely stay awake.
  - a)so
  - b)such
3. The flight was \_\_\_\_\_ long that I thought we'd never get there.
  - a)so
  - b)such
4. If you study for it, the TOEFL is not \_\_\_\_\_ a difficult exam.
  - a)so
  - b)such
5. People in our office leave leftovers in the refrigerator for months. It's \_\_\_\_\_ gross!
  - a)so
  - b)such