

Differences between **なんか** and **なんて**

-This grammar is only used between friends.

-Technically, you can just say the normal sentence but adding **なんか/なんて** adds a sense of resentment or emotion and not sounding like a robot.

✖✖ DONTs: You cannot use **なんか** for verbs and adjectives, ONLY NOUNS. **なんて** on the other hand can be used with nouns/verbs/adj to express your feelings.

✖✖ DONTs: **なんか** can ONLY be used with negative sentence. Whilst positive and negative sentences can be used by **なんて**.

!□!□ Note: You can only use **なんか** + particle but not **なんて**. However, there are particles that you cannot omit like: **と、で、に、より**

1. N + **なんか/なんて** ; Adj + V + **なんて**

1.1 Expresses the speaker's hatred / distaste / all the negative feelings towards the noun in front of it. Can only be used with Nouns (NOT VERBS/ADJ)

*1.1 Can be used with both positive (respect, love, cool) and negative (hatred, distaste, all) feelings. Can also be used with Adj / Verbs / Nouns.

N + **なんか/なんて**

NEGATIVE ONLY

Noun **なんか** 【最悪】さいあく。 Noun is just the worst.

✓Basic

仕事に行きたくない。I don't want to go.

N / Adj / Verbs + **なんて**

POSITIVE and NEGATIVE

✓Noun-Positive

20歳で【社長】しゃちょうなんてすごい。It's amazing that you're a company president at 25.

✓Noun-Negative

Noun **なんて** 【最悪】さいあく。 Noun is just the worst.

✓With emotions:

仕事**なんか**辞めたい。I wanna quit my job.

コロナ**なんて**くそくらえ! Fuck coronavirus!

A. 【一万円】いちまんえんでいい? Is 10,000 yen fine?

B. お金**なんて**いらぬ。謝って! I don't need money! Apologize!

✓**なんか** + Particle (が、を、に、と、へ)

✓Adj

【外見】がいけんがよくて、頭もいい**なんて**ずるい! It's unfair that you're good looking and also smart.

トイレがこんなに【汚い】きたない**なんて**【最悪】さいあく。The fact that the toilet is this dirty is the worst.

✓Verb

毎月旅行できる**なんて**いいな。I'm jealous that you can travel every month.

初めてのデートに時間を送れる**なんて**信じられない。I can't believe I was able to spend time on our first date.



1. N + **なんか / なんて** ; Adj + V + **なんて** (cont)

【納豆】 なっとうなんかが好きなの？ Do you really like something like natto? 人を【助ける】たすける仕事をしてるなんて【尊敬】そんけいする。I respect that you have a job where you save people.

これを一人で動かすなんてできるわけない。There's no way I can carry this by myself.

なんでも【似合う】にあうなんていいな。I'm jealous that everything looks good on you.

Vocabs:

【稼ぐ】かせぐ : to earn
 【感動】かんどう : moved
 【外見】がいけん : outward appearance
 【狡い】ずるい : unfair
 【尊敬】そんけいする : respect
 【偉い】えらい : admirable; great job (can't be used with older people)
 【似合う】にあう : to look good; to suit

2 meaning. "Such thing as/like"

1. 2 "Such thing as" "Someone like" "Something like" to highlight the noun before **なんか / なんて**

なんか + particles

なんか + が、を、に、と、へ、より

N + なんて

When speaking, you can omit the particles so you can still use **なんて** when speaking casually. Just note that there are particles that you cannot omit like: と、で、に、より

【納豆】 なっとうなんかが好きなの？ Do you really like something like natto?

×【納豆】 なっとうなんてが好きなの？

フォークなんかで寿司を食べないで。Don't eat sushi with something like a fork. ピザをお【米】こめ なんかと一緒に食べないで。

□□【納豆】 なっとうなんて好きなの？ Do you really like something like natto?

ピザをお【米】こめ なんかと一緒に食べないで。Don't eat pizza together with something like rice.

×日本なんてに行きたくない。

私なんかよりいい人があるよ。There's someone better than someone like me.

□□日本なんかにいきたくない。I don't wanna go somewhere like Japan.

A. ママ、今年はサンタさんからPS5が欲しいの。Mommy, this year I want a PS5 from Santa.

B. サンタさんなんかいないの。There is no such thing as Santa.

仕事なんか【辞めたい】やめたい。I want to quit my job.

サラダにきゅうりなんか入れないで。Don't put any dang cucumbers in my salad.



2 meaning. "Such thing as/like" (cont)

漢字二千字なんか覚えられない。I can't memorize 2,000 kanji characters.

3. 'I' + なんて/なんか downgrade/modest

1.3 Used to downgrade someone (yourself; others). This is also used to sound modest or humble and if you are not confident with yourself.

私/僕/俺 + なんて / なんか

"Someone like me; Someone like you"

私なんか試験に受からないよ。 Someone like me can't pass the exam. 私なんてでいいの？ Is someone like me, okay?

私なんかと付き合いたい？ Do you really want to go out with someone like me? お前なんてどうか言っちゃえ。 Someone like you should just go away.

俺なんか【勝つ】かてないよ。 Someone like me can't win. お前なんての顔もうみたくない。 I don't want to see your stupid face anymore.

お前なんか死んじゃえ。 Someone like you should just die.

3. Time/counter + なんか/なんて VS Q + も

(Quantity) + なんか / なんて / も Both grammars are used to emphasize that the quantity is too much.

Period of time / counters + なんか	Period of time / counters + なんて	(Quantity) + も
"As much as..."; "Just"	"As much as..."; "Just"	"As much as..."; "Just"
4時なんかに起きられない。 No way I can wake up at 4am.	5分なんて短すぎる。 Five minutes is just too short.	百万年も持ってない。 No way I have 1 million yen (\$10,000).
百万年なんか持ってない。 No way I have 1 million yen (\$10,000).	【初めて】はじめてデートに1時間も【遅れる】おくれるなんて (信じられない。) I can't believe you were an hour late to our first date.	今月は50万円も【稼ぐ】かせげた。 I was able to earn as much as 500,000 yen this month. // 【稼ぐ】かせぐ : to earn



By jennilee
cheatography.com/jennilee/

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