

Likelihood and Resemblance

らしい

-Express likelihood / speculation / resemblance based on what you heard from others without making a commitment.

—Often used in gossips

-Ambiguous: can be based on on personal observation or hearsay.

よう

Express speculation but you admit responsibility for it because you're convinced that it's true.

みたい

-Colloquial version of よう and used often in conversation.

!□!□Note: らしい、よう、みたい、そう are the same but there are nuances.

CLARIFICATION:

| V-ますそうです (Personal Observation) | (Plain sentence) + そうです (Hearsay) | らしい | よう | みたい |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|----------------------------|
| 雨が降りそうです | 雨が降るそうです。 | 雨が降るらしいです。 | 雨が降るようです。 | 雨が降るみたい。 |
| "It seems it will rain." | "I heard it will rain." | "It seems it will rain." | "It seems it will rain." | "It seems it will rain." |
| | | (But you don't vouch for that statement. Probably because you only heard it from someone else.) | (But I vouch for it; evidence convinced me. Ex. dark skies, weather forecast.) | (Colloquial version of よう) |

らしい "is like; seems like; ish"

-Express likelihood or speculation without making a commitment.

"It seems that...; It appears that...; It is likely that..." (But I don't vouch for it because I just heard it, don't quote me on that)

-This is an い—Adj and can be used directly as a suffix for verbs, adjectives, and nouns.

-For VERBS and ADJECTIVES, only used as らしい.

-For NOUNS, can be as らしい and らしくない。

(Noun) らしい (Noun) means "stereotypical; appropriate"

らしい can also be turned into an ADVERB らしく。

VERB : V-plain + らしい

い-Adj : い-Adj + らしい

な-Adj : な-Adj + らしい

雪が降ったらしいです。

そんな映画は面白いらしいです。

【お祖母さん】おばあさんは元気らしいですよ。

It seems that it snowed. (But I'm not vouching for it. Just heard it from someone else.)

It seems that kind of movie is interesting.

It seems grandma is well, you know.



らしい "is like; seems like; ish" (cont)

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| 田中さんは今日来ないらしいです。 | あの【靴】くつは重くないらしいです。 | 20年前この街は静かな だったらしいです。 |
| It seems that Ms Tanaka won't come in today. (Bc I just heard it from it so don't quote me on that. It could also be a rumor or gossip.) | It seems that those shoes are not heavy. (That's what the ad says, but I'm not vouching for it.) | It appears this town was quiet 20 years ago. |
| NOUN : (Noun) + らしい | STEREOTYPICAL : (Noun) + らしい (Noun) | ADVERB : らしく + Verb |
| 田中さんは有名な人らしいです。 | 彼女は女らしい女です。 | 君はプロならプロらしくやれよ。 |
| It seems that Mr Tanaka is a famous person. | She is the ideal woman. | If you're a pro (as you say), then do it like a pro. |
| | 彼は先生なのに【態度】たいどが先生らしくないです。 | 子供達はお腹が空いたらしくピザを全部食べてしまった。 |
| | Although he's a teacher, his attitude isn't teacher like. | The kids seemingly hungry ate all of the pizza. |
| | | (How did they eat the pizza? "As if they had empty stomachs.) |

"Is like; -ish"

| (Noun) + らしい | (Noun) らしく (Verb) | (Noun) + っぽい |
|--|---|--|
| "is like; -ish; is acting like" (Acts the way it should) | "(Verb) like..." | "is like; -ish; is acting like" (Acts like something else) |
| -Acting like he's supposed to be; Appropriately; stereotypically | -Changing らしく to an adverb when modifying a verb | -Sometimes acting like it shouldn't" |
| -Acting the way it should or how stereotypically people think they do | | (Usually) acting opposite of how they should |
| | | -Not always opposite / negative; can mean has a trait similar to something |
| みさはこどもらしい。Misa acting like a child. (like she should be as she is one) | 日本人らしくはしで食べる。I eat with chopsticks like a Japanese person (should). | みさはこどもっぽい。Misa is childish. (not acting like she's supposed to be) |



"Is like; -ish" (cont)

女らしい。Womanly (Feminine)

おとなっぽい。 (They're) so grown up / mature. (positive)

男らしい。Manly (Masculine)

あの猫は犬っぽい。 That cat is (acting) like a dog.

*

らしい is an い-adjective; hence, can be used as predicate and be put at the end of the sentence.

よう "It seems; It is likely..."

よう/みたい "It seems; It appears; It is likely..."

-Express likelihood, resemblance, speculation based on convincing evidence. Hence, you stand by it.

-Grammatically, よう is a noun = manner, method, mode.

-Used with VERBS, ADJECTIVES, NOUNS.

よう can become an adj (ような) and an adverb (ように)

みたい is the same as よう but colloquial.

VERB : V-plain + よう

い-Adj : い-Adj + よう

な-Adj : な-Adj + よう

雪が降ったようです。

そんな映画は面白いようです。

【お祖母さん】おばあさんは元気らしいですよ。

It seems that it snowed. (I am vouching for it based on the fresh snow on the ground and what the weatherman said.)

It seems that kind of movie is interesting. (And I stand by it bc I am a fan of the genre.)

It seems grandma is well. (And I vouch for it bc I spoke to her on the phone.)

NOUN : (Noun) の + よう

Verb + ような "To be in such a way that..."

い/な-Adj + ような

Noun の + ような

Verb + ように

-の is added after a noun because よう is grammatically a noun.

ような is the adjective form of よう。

-よう is technically a noun and we need の。

ように is the adjective form of よう。

田中さんは有名な人のようです。

この公園に来るとオランダ-
に行ったような気持ちにな
る。

【四季】しきのな
い一年中暑いよう
な国には住みたく
ない。

たかこさんのよう
な友達は【珍し
い】めずらしいで
す。

【新幹線】しんかんせん
はリビングルームにいるよ
うに【快適】かいてきで
す。

よう "It seems; It is likely..." (cont)

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|---|
| It seems that Mr Tanaka is a famous person. | When I come to this park, I feel like I went to Holland. | I don't want to live in a country that's like hot all year round and no 4 seasons. | Friends like Takako are rare. | The bullet train is comfortable (in such a way that) it's like being in your living room. |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|---|

(And I stand by him bc I just googled him and am so impressed.)

この店のお客様はジャズが好きな人が多いです。

This bar has many customers who are jazz fan types.

みたい "A is like" "Acts like"

| (A) は (B) みたい | (A) みたいな (B) | (Noun) みたいに (Verb/Adj) |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| "A is like B" | "B that is like A" | "Verb like ..." |
| みたい is used as predicate. | みたいな is used to modify a noun | みたいに is used to modify a verb |
| ミサはイタリア人みたい。 Misa is like an Italian. | 犬みたいなねこ。 A cat (that acts) like a dog. | ミサはイタリア人みたいに話す。 Misa talks like an Italian. |
| | | 子どもみたいに遊んだ。 I played like a kid. |

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!□!□みたい acts like an adjective; hence, can be used as predicate and be put at the end of the sentence.

"A that is similar to B"

| (A) は (B) のようです | (A) ような (B) | (Noun) のように (Verb) |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| "A that is similar to B" | "B that is like A" | "Verb like ..." |
| のよう is used as predicate. | ような is used to modify a noun | Changing ように to an adverb when modifying a verb |
| あのねこは犬のようです。 That cat is like a dog. | 犬のような猫。 A cat that is like a dog. | ミサはイタリア人のように話します。 Misa talks like an Italian. |

*

!□!□のよう acts like an adjective; hence, can be used as predicate and be put at the end of the sentence.

みtain "It seems; It is likely..."

よう/みtain "It seems; It appears; It is likely..."

みtain is the same as よう but colloquial.



みたいな "It seems; It is likely..." (cont)

みたい can become an adj (みたいな) and an adverb (みたいに)

VERB : V-plain + みたい

い-Adj : い-Adj + みたい

な-Adj : な-Adj + みたい

雪が降ったみたい。

そんな映画は面白いみたい。

【お祖母さん】おばあさんは元気みたい。

It seems that it snowed. (I am vouching for it based on the fresh snow on the ground and what the weatherman said.)

It seems that kind of movie is interesting. (And I stand by it bc I am a fan of the genre.)

It seems grandma is well. (And I vouch for it bc I spoke to her on the phone.)

NOUN : (Noun) + みたい

Verb + みたいな "To be in such a way that..."

い/な-Adj + みたいな

Noun + みたいな

Verb + みたいに

みたいな is the adjective form of みたい。

-With みたいな, we remove the な in the な-Adj.

みたいに is the adjective form of みたい。

田中さんは有名な人みたいです。

この公園に来るとオランダに行ったみたいな気持ちになる。

【四季】しきのない一年中暑いみたいな国には住みたくない。

たかこさんみたいな友達は【珍しい】めずらしいです。

【新幹線】しんかんせんはリビングルームにいるみたいに【快適】かいてきです。

It seems that Mr Tanaka is a famous person.

When I come to this park, I feel like I went to Holland.

I don't want to live in a country that's like hot all year round and no 4 seasons.

Friends like Takako are rare.

The bullet train is comfortable (in such a way that) it's like being in your living room.

(And I stand by him bc I just googled him and am so impressed.)

この店のお客様はジャズが好きみたい人が多いです。

【久しぶり】ひさしぶりの家族旅行が嬉しいみたいに-子供達は【燥ぐ】はしゃいでいる。



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みたいな "It seems; It is likely..." (cont)

This bar has many customers who are jazz fan types.

The children are frolicking in such a way that the long-awaited family trip is happy.

"To become like"

(Noun) + みたいになる

(Noun) + みたいになりたい

"To become like "

"Want to become like "

俺みたいになるな！ Please don't be like me.

べんごしみたいになりたい。 I want to become like a lawyer.

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