



Use of Prefer & Rather

RULES FOR USING “PREFER TO “(do)

- I don't like cities. **I prefer to live** in the country. **OR** **I prefer living** in the country.

Let's study the differences in structure after **prefer**.

We say:

- *I prefer something to something else.*

E.g.: **I prefer** this coat **to** the coat you were wearing yesterday.

- *I prefer to do something rather than (do) something else.*

E.g.: Ann **prefers to** live in the country rather than **to** live in a city.

- *I prefer doing something to doing something else.*

E.g.: **I prefer** driving **to** traveling by train.

RULES FOR USING ' Would prefer (I'd prefer...)'

We use:

- *"would prefer" to say what somebody wants in a particular situation .*

E.g.: Would you prefer tea or coffee?

- *"would prefer to do" (not "doing"):*

E.g.: "Shall we go by train?" "Well, I'd prefer to go by car. (not "I'd prefer going")

E.g.: I'd prefer to stay at home tonight rather than go to the cinema.