Vocabulary: adjectives for describing gadgets

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A **Match the columns to complete these definitions.**



When a gadget is …

1 attractive	**a)** it is easy to use.
2 up-to-date	**b)** it doesn't cost a lot of money.
3 user-friendly	**c)** it is small.
4 compact	**d)** it costs a lot of money.
5 versatile	**e)** it can do lots of different things.
6 expensive	**f)** it can store a lot of information.
7 powerful	**g)** it looks good.
8 cheap	**h)** it is very modern.

B **Read the conversation below. Complete the sentences with words from Exercise A.**

A: Can you tell me about this cell phone?

B: Yes, sure. I love this cell phone because it's so easy to use—it really is (1) _____ .

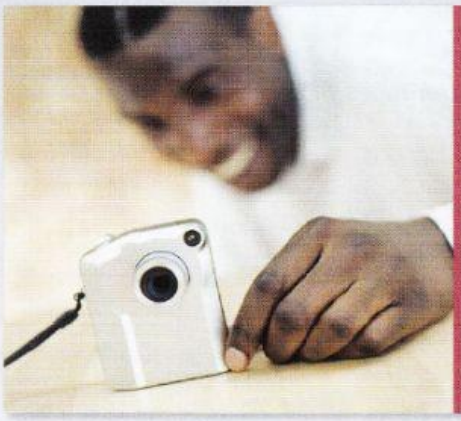
And it's also (2) _____ . You can go online and it has a digital camera.

A: Yeah, that's great. Is it (3) _____ ?

B: No, it's actually very cheap ...

Grammar: comparative adjectives

A **Language in context** **Read this review. Circle the correct option to answer the question.**



Are you looking for the perfect gift for Father's Day?

Then how about the new Ikon ZX8S digital camera? It looks cool and it takes fantastic pictures. It's cheaper than other digital cameras, too. The ZXTi, for example, is more expensive, but I don't think it takes very good pictures. It's also bigger and less compact than the ZX8S. The ZX8S is smaller, so it's better for vacations or traveling. It's more versatile than other cameras, and it's prettier. I'm giving the ZX8S 4.5 stars!

★★★★½

-Review by Ian Atkinson, Atlanta

Which camera does the reviewer prefer? **a)** the ZXTi camera **b)** the ZX8S camera

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B Notice Read the review in Exercise A again. Complete these spelling rules for comparative adjectives.

One syllable adjectives	For most, add *-er: old—older, smart—smarter, cheap*—(1) _____ ↓ **less** *cold* For adjectives which end in consonant-vowel-consonant, double the final consonant and add *-er: thin—thinner, hot—hotter, big*—(2) _____ ↓ **less** *hot* *This camera is smaller/bigger than that one.*
Two syllable adjectives ending in *-y*	Change the *y* to *i* and add *-er: happy—happier, funny—funnier, pretty*—(3) _____ ↓ **less** *happy* *His photo is funnier than her photo.*
Adjectives with two or more syllables	Use *more* or *less: interesting*—**more** *interesting, compact*—↓ **less** *compact, expensive*—(4) _____ *The ZXTi is more expensive than the ZX8S.*
Irregular adjectives	*bad—worse, good*—(5) _____ *Tom's camera is worse than this one.*

C Practice Complete these sentences with the correct comparative form of the adjective in parentheses + *than*.

1 This laptop is _____ (↑ *versatile*) mine.
2 Your furniture is _____ (↑ *nice*) your neighbors' furniture.
3 Shopping online is _____ (↑ *easy*) going to the store.
4 My cell phone is _____ (↓ *up-to-date*) yours.
5 These jeans are _____ (↑ *good*) those.
6 Mike's old MP3 player is _____ (↑ *big*) his new one.

Watch out!
✔ This TV is smaller than that one.
✘ This TV is more smaller than that one.

D Now you do it Work in pairs. Which of these two types of computer do you prefer and why?

• practical • attractive • compact • cheap • user-friendly • good • big





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Taken from Open Mind Level 1.

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