

1 Do the pairs of sentences have the same or a different meaning? Write S (Same) or D (Different).

- 1 A A lake is not nearly as big as an ocean.
B An ocean is far bigger than a lake. S
- 2 A April was a good deal hotter than March.
B March was slightly colder than April. -----
- 3 A Canada is almost as cold as Siberia.
B Siberia is a great deal colder than Canada. -----
- 4 A Last week's tornado was easily the most destructive in Texas ever.
B Last week's tornado was by far the most destructive in Texas ever. -----
- 5 A Statistically earthquakes are a bit more dangerous than wildfires.
B Statistically wildfires are nearly as dangerous as earthquakes. -----
- 6 A The longer the rainstorm lasts, the greater the flood will be.
B The shorter the rainstorm is, the bigger the flood will be. -----

2 Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- 1 I'm not quite / almost as fast as I used to be.
- 2 Chicago is windier that / than London.
- 3 It's slightly / almost as cold as it was yesterday.
- 4 This year's wildfires are a good deal worse / worst.
- 5 The longer / longest the river, the more water it carries.
- 6 The tornado was a great / greatest deal more powerful than predicted.
- 7 I'm not nearly / easily as tall as my brother.
- 8 Earthquakes are by far / far more dangerous than thunderstorms.

3 Match 1-6 to A-F.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--|
| 1 This September was by far | F | A more powerful than we realise. |
| 2 The sea is far | | B the more dangerous it becomes. |
| 3 The Sahara is easily the | | C deal more active now than it used to be. |
| 4 The longer a wildfire lasts, | | D prone to earthquakes as Japan. |
| 5 The volcano is a good | | E largest non-polar desert. |
| 6 France is not nearly as | | F the wettest in India's history. |

4 Correct the mistake in bold in each sentence.

- 1 The film was far better **that** I expected.
The film was far better than I expected.
- 2 Brazil is almost **so** big as the USA.
.....
- 3 It is healthier, cheaper and far **more safer** than driving a car.
.....
- 4 The Earth is **a bit of** wider around the equator.
.....
- 5 Reptiles can run almost as fast **than** lions.
.....
- 6 The larger the volcano, the **most** dangerous it is.
.....

5 Complete the text with the phrases below.

isn't nearly as green as the more it melts
a great deal more populated ~~not as cold as~~
by far the tallest slightly faster

The Arctic and Antarctic are poles apart! The Arctic is ¹ not as cold as the Antarctic, mostly due to differences in height. The Antarctic is ² by far the tallest continent on Earth with an average height of 2,300 m! Because of its climate, Antarctica ³ isn't nearly as green as the north; only two flowering plants grow there, compared to 900 in the Arctic. What about people? Well the Arctic is ⁴ a great deal more populated: 4 million inhabitants, compared to Antarctica's 45,000 summer visitors. And in the race to the Poles, who reached them first? In the north it was either Frederick Cook in 1908 or Robert Peary in 1909. They were ⁵ the more it melts than Roald Amundsen, who arrived in Antarctica in 1911. The Arctic is in fact just a sheet of ice and ⁶ slightly faster, the less heat gets reflected, so the planet warms. Scientists are very worried about this.