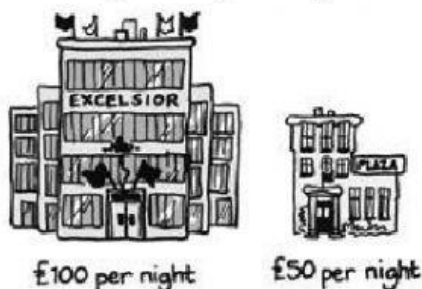


# Comparative adjectives

- 1 Look at the way we compare things:



The Plaza Hotel is **cheaper** than the Excelsior.  
 The Excelsior Hotel is **bigger** than the Plaza.  
 The Excelsior is **more expensive** than the Plaza.  
 The Plaza Hotel is **smaller** than the Excelsior.

- ◆ long adjectives (two syllables or more):

ADJECTIVE	COMPARATIVE
famous	<b>more famous</b>
difficult	<b>more difficult</b>
careful	<b>more careful</b>
expensive	<b>more expensive</b>

- ◆ adjectives ending with -y:

happy	<b>happier</b>
hungry	<b>hungrier</b>

- ◆ irregular adjectives:

good	<b>better</b>
bad	<b>worse</b>

(For more information, see Appendix 4, page 245)

- 2 **Cheaper** and **more expensive** are comparative adjectives. We form them like this:

- ◆ short adjectives (one syllable):

ADJECTIVE	COMPARATIVE
old	<b>older</b>
long	<b>longer</b>
nice	<b>nicer</b>
new	<b>newer</b>
slow	<b>slower</b>
fat	<b>fatter</b>
hot	<b>hotter</b>
big	<b>bigger</b>

- 3 To compare things, we use a comparative adjective + **than**:

Tom is **richer** than Paul.  
 Paris is **more beautiful** than London.  
 My new car is **better** than my old one.

## Practice

- A Write the comparative form of these adjectives.

- |              |               |              |       |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------|
| ◆ cold       | <u>colder</u> | 13 long      | _____ |
| 1 big        | _____         | 14 hungry    | _____ |
| 2 careful    | _____         | 15 nice      | _____ |
| 3 expensive  | _____         | 16 happy     | _____ |
| 4 good       | _____         | 17 difficult | _____ |
| 5 fat        | _____         | 18 old       | _____ |
| 6 famous     | _____         | 19 beautiful | _____ |
| 7 new        | _____         | 20 friendly  | _____ |
| 8 modern     | _____         | 21 hot       | _____ |
| 9 young      | _____         | 22 wonderful | _____ |
| 10 cheap     | _____         | 23 bad       | _____ |
| 11 delicious | _____         | 24 small     | _____ |
| 12 rich      | _____         | 25 sad       | _____ |

**B** Write comparative sentences about the pictures using *than* and the words in brackets ( ). Use the Present Simple.



- ◆ (be/tall) Tom is taller than Sam.
- 1 (be/cold) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 (be/hungry) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 (be/small) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 (be/happy) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 (be/young) \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 (be/rich) \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 (be/friendly) \_\_\_\_\_

**C** Look at the information about two boats, the Queen Anne and the King John.

BOATS	LENGTH	AREA	TOP SPEED	YEAR MADE	PRICE
Queen Anne	14 metres	40 metres <sup>2</sup>	35 knots	2005	£9,000
King John	9 metres	23 metres <sup>2</sup>	30 knots	1997	£3,500

Now put words from the box in the sentences.

King John (x2)	bigger	slower	is	than
Queen Anne (x2)	longer	expensive	more	

◆ The Queen Anne is bigger than the King John.

- 1 The King John is smaller \_\_\_\_\_ the Queen Anne.
- 2 The Queen Anne is \_\_\_\_\_ modern than the King John.
- 3 The King John \_\_\_\_\_ older than the Queen Anne.
- 4 The \_\_\_\_\_ is faster than the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 The Queen Anne is more \_\_\_\_\_ than the King John.
- 6 The King John is \_\_\_\_\_ than the Queen Anne.
- 7 The \_\_\_\_\_ is cheaper than the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8 The Queen Anne is \_\_\_\_\_ than the King John.