

## COMPARISONS

1 What are the comparative and superlative forms of the following adjectives?

clean _____	clever _____
hot _____	good _____
strange _____	bad _____
happy _____	far _____

2 Read this sentence: "They all completed their homework far more efficiently and far more quickly."

Here *far* is used with a comparative (*far more quickly*) to talk about a big difference. Which of the following are used before comparatives and superlatives for big differences and which for small differences?

*a bit*      *much*      *significantly*      *a little*      *slightly*      *a lot*

3 To talk about people or things that are the same in some way we can use *as* + adjective or adverb + *as*.

*They are just as silly as each other.*

In negative sentences which talk about differences, *so* can be used instead of the first *as*.

*She's not so fit as she used to be.*

*Not so* becomes *not such* if a noun is used after the adjective.

*Maybe this isn't such a good idea as I thought.*

4 *The* + comparative, *the* + comparative

This structure is used to show that two changes happen together. The second change is often the result of the first.

*The more facts we have at our fingertips, the less we seem to know.*

*The older he gets, the more slowly he drives.*

## EXERCISES

1 Match each sentence 1-6 with a sentence a-f which expresses a similar idea. The first has been done for you.

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|---|--|
| 1 She's far lazier than anyone else. <u>c</u>             | a She doesn't work nearly as much as she should. |
| 2 She works a lot less than she ought to. _____           | b She has fewer difficulties than before.        |
| 3 She's not quite as lazy as she used to be. _____        | c Everyone works much harder than she.           |
| 4 She doesn't have as many problems as she used to. _____ | d She's more successful when she works harder.   |
| 5 She's the worst student I've ever taught. _____         | e She's slightly more hardworking than before.   |
| 6 The more she works, the more success she has. _____     | f I've never had such a bad student in my class. |

2 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence using the word given. Use between two and five words, including the word given.

1 The film wasn't nearly as good as I thought it would be. **FAR**  
The film \_\_\_\_\_ I thought it would be.

2 I've never had such a boring holiday! **ENJOYABLE**  
This is \_\_\_\_\_ I've ever had!

3 There are fewer teachers in my school than there were last year. **NOT**  
There \_\_\_\_\_ teachers in my school as there were last year.

4 If you work harder now, you won't have to do much later. **THE**  
The harder \_\_\_\_\_ you'll have to do later.

5 Lucy is as tall as her mother. **HEIGHT**  
Lucy \_\_\_\_\_ her mother.

6 Kate has slightly more experience than others. **QUITE**  
The others don't have \_\_\_\_\_ Kate.