

UNIT 2 – LESSON 2

PART 1: GRAMMAR

1. Comparative Forms of Adjectives (Review)

	Adjectives	Comparative forms	Example
1 syllable	cold	colder	<i>It's colder today than yesterday.</i>
	fine	finer	<i>She's a fine actor and an even finer dancer.</i>
	big	bigger	<i>This shirt is too small. I need a bigger one.</i>
2 syllables	busy	busier	<i>I have become busier recently.</i>
	narrow	narrower	<i>This new bed is narrower than the old one.</i>
	modern	moderner	<i>Moderner equipment should be purchased for our work.</i>
3 syllables	interesting	more/less interesting	<i>The second lecture was more interesting than the first.</i>
	complicated	more/less complicated	<i>That way of calculating the figures seems less complicated to me.</i>

- Comparative Forms of Irregular Adjectives

Adjectives	Comparative forms	Example
bad	worse	<i>The weather got worse during the day.</i>
far	farther/further	<i>We had walked further than I had realized.</i>

good	better	<i>The morning flight is better than the afternoon one.</i>
old	older/elder	<i>His elder sister works for the government.</i>

- Farther or further?

Talk about	Farther	Further	Example
Distance	x	x	<i>How much farther/further are we going?</i>
Addition		x	<i>For further information, please ring 090 123 4567.</i>
Higher level		x	<i>She's gone to a college of further education.</i>
More		x	<i>I do not propose to discuss it any further.</i>

- Elder or older?

Used/talk about	Elder	Older	Example
As a noun	x	x	<i>Jack is the eldest of four brothers. Matt is the oldest of our children and Simon is the youngest.</i>
Before a noun	x	x	<i>Let me introduce Siga. She's my elder sister. The older man is my father.</i>
Age of things generally		x	<i>The town hall is by far the oldest building in the whole region.</i>

After a linking verb		x	<i>I think her grandfather must be older than her grandmother.</i>
After <i>to be</i>		x	<i>She is much older than me.</i>
Relationships within a family	x		<i>I am the eldest member of the family.</i>

2. Comparative Forms of Adverbs

	Adverbs	Comparative forms	Examples
1 syllable	soon	sooner	<i>They came sooner than us.</i>
	hard	harder	<i>Teachers always say that students must work harder.</i>
	early	earlier	<i>We should set off earlier to avoid traffic jam.</i>
	late	later	<i>She got married later than me.</i>
	fast	faster	<i>Children learn things faster than adults.</i>
	near	nearer	<i>As New Year is getting nearer, everyone is becoming busier.</i>
	far	farther/further	<i>Go farther and discover the world yourself!</i>
	carefully	more/less carefully	<i>He drives more carefully than I do.</i>

2 syllables or more	beautifully	more/less beautifully	<i>She dances more beautifully than anyone I have known.</i>
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- We use *than* when we mention the second person or thing in the comparison.

Example:

*I can't keep up with him – he runs much faster **than** me.*

*My wife drives more carefully **than** I do.*

- Comparative Forms of Irregular Adverbs

Adverbs	Comparative forms	Examples
well	better	<i>Marry speaks English better than I can.</i>
badly	worse	<i>The weather got worse during the day.</i>

PART 2: PRACTICE

I. Choose the best answer to complete each of the following sentences.

- I finished my project _____ than he finished his.
A. faster B. more fast C. fastly D. more fastly
- It's _____ tonight than last night.
A. cold B. colder C. more cold D. more colder
- The new copier prints pages _____ than the old one.
A. quick B. quicker C. more quickly D. more quick
- Carlos is _____ than Dave.
A. old B. more older C. less older D. older
- It was _____ holiday than the one we had last summer.
A. long B. more long C. more longer D. longer

6. She understands the course _____ than anyone in my class.
A. more easy B. easier C. more easily D. more easier
7. The morning flight is _____ than the night one.
A. better B. well C. good D. more good
8. You'll have to try to be _____ in future.
A. carefully B. less carefully C. more careful D. more careful
9. The lecture given by Dr. Harry was _____ than any one I have attended before.
A. interesting B. more interesting
C. interestingly D. more interestingly
10. Could you carry this? You're _____ than I am.
A. stronger B. more strong
C. strongly D. more strongly

II. Give the correct form of the adjective and adverbs in brackets to complete the following sentences.

1. His old house is (big) _____ than his new one.
2. No one in my class is (tall) _____ than David.
3. She sings (beautifully) _____ than I do.
4. The black car is (expensive) _____ than the red one.
5. In my opinion, English is (easy) _____ than Chinese.
6. My brother drives (carefully) _____ than my father.
7. No one in my group is (intelligent) _____ than Lucia.
8. No river in the world is (long) _____ than the Nile.
9. This fan works (well) _____ than that one.
10. She finished her exercises (quickly) _____ than anyone else in my class.

III. Choose the sentence that is closest in meaning to each of the following sentences.

1. It isn't necessary to finish the homework tonight.

→ You don't _____

2. Kate finally managed to go abroad to study English.

→ Kate finally succeeded _____

3. That's the last time I go to that cafe.

→ I certainly _____

4. "I advise you to take a day off", said the doctor.

→ You'd _____

5. If you don't take a rest, you will be ill.

→ Unless _____

6. The last time I went to Hue was 3 years ago.

→ I haven't _____

7. May I borrow your car?

→ Would you mind _____

8. We spent five hours travelling to Washington.

→ It took _____

9. Someone is going to fix my bike tomorrow.

→ I'm going _____

10. Kim Anh keeps forgetting her keys.

→ Kim Anh is _____

IV. Rearrange the given words or phrases to make meaningful sentences.

1. both/ like/ David/ better/ my/ and/ Jane/ are/ friends,/ but/I/ Jane.

2. better/ plays/ than/ He/ tennis/I/ do.

3. yesterday,/ farther/ She/ but/ even/ ran/ she/ pretty far/ ran/ today.

4. than/ China/ bigger/ France/ is/ a/ country.

5. the day/ It's/ colder/ before yesterday/ much/ today/ than/ it/ was.

V. Find ONE mistake in each of the following sentences and correct it.

1. This house was constructed more recent than the one across the street.

A. This house B. constructed C. more recent D. across the street

2. After a few weeks of lessons I could dance gracefully than before.

A. a few weeks B. could dance C. gracefully D. than before

3. I came home early but Steven arrived more early than I.

A. came home B. but C. arrived D. more early

4. Steve works more happy than he used to.

A. Steve works B. more happy C. than D. used to

5. My paper airplane flew farther then yours did.

A. paper airplane B. farther C. then D. did

VI. Use the comparative form of the adjectives or adverbs given in the box to complete the following sentences.

far	carefully	good	comfortable	difficult
hard	good	badly	beautifully	dangerous

1. The growth in the economy makes people's living condition _____.

2. French is considered to be _____ than English.

3. Being a firefighter is _____ than being a builder.

4. He drives _____ than his brother.

5. My sister dances _____ than me.
6. My new sofa is _____ than the old one.
7. He did the test _____ than I did.
8. Her office is _____ away than mine.
9. She sings _____ than any other singers I have known.
10. He has tried to study _____ recently because the final exam is coming near.