Repeated Comparatives & Double Comparatives

REPEATED COMPARATIVES

Repeated comparatives describe things that are increasing or decreasing.

- The birthrate is getting lower and lower.
- Fewer and fewer children are leaving school.
- It's becoming more and more difficult.
- By the end of the century, couples were waiting longer and longer to marry.

FIGURE IT OUT...
Fill in the blanks.

1. Which repeated comparatives in the example sentences describe things that are increasing?

_____ _____

2. Which repeated comparatives in the example sentences describe things that are decreasing?

_____ _____

DOUBLE COMPARATIVES

Double comparatives describe a cause-and-effect process.

- The more education women get, the later they marry.
- [Women are getting more education, so they're marrying later.]
- The better the quality of health care (is), the higher the life expectancy (is).
- [If the quality of health care is better, the life expectancy is higher.]

FIGURE IT OUT...
Choose the letter of the best interpretation.

1. The less children studied, the more slowly they learned.
   a. Children studied less because they were slow learners.
   b. Children studied less, so they learned more slowly.



Fill in the blanks.

2. Which verb is sometimes omitted in double comparatives?

BE CAREFUL! Don't use continuous verb forms in double comparatives.

FIGURE IT OUT...
Check the correct statement.

☐ a. The longer couples wait to have children, the fewer children they have.
☐ b. The longer couples are waiting to have children, the fewer children they're having.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

A) Unscramble the sentences to form with them the repeated comparatives.

1. There /Asia. /are /and /more /from /more /tourists

_____

2. more /come /from /and /Europe. /More /immigrants

_____

3. is /wine /and /Australian /better. /better

_____

4. more /popular. /more /Surfing /is /and

_____

5. more /cities /more /are /and /populated. /Coastal

_____

6. dangerous /is /sun. /it /lie /realize /people /more /More /to /in /how /and /the

_____

7. spend /more /and /TV. /more /time /Children /watching

_____

8. radio. /There /French /fewer /French /and /on /fewer /are /songs

_____

9. is /It /place. /and /to /more /difficult /find /parking /more /a

_____

10. personal /are /computers /expensive. /Nowadays, /less /and /less

_____

B) Choose the correct answer to form the double comparatives.

1. _____, the more serious the problems become.
   a) The more raining it is b) The less it is rain c) The more it rains

2. The older he gets, _____ friends he has.
   a) the less b) the more c) the fewer



3. The more you pay, _____ the quality is.
   a) the more good b) the better c) better

4. _____ mistakes you make, the better your mark is.
   a) The fewer b) The less c) The more

5. The more I work, _____time I spend with my family.
   a) the more b) the less c) the fewer

6. The better I know him, _____ I like him.
   a) the fewer b) the more c) the gooder

7. _____ candidates there were, the more difficult the exam was.
   a) The more b) The fewer c) The less

8. _____you drive, the more petrol the car uses.
   a) The more fast b) The faster c) The more

9. _____ she got, the nicer her children became to her.
   a) The more old b) The older c) The more older

10. _____ I waited, the more furious I got.
    a) The better b) The longer c) The fewer

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