

# 21

## (Not) as ... as, enough, too

They ran as fast as they could, but not fast enough.

1 We use (not) as ... as to say that people or things are (not) the same in some way. We can use an adjective, adverb or quantifier with (not) as ... as like this:

*Their flat is as big as ours.*

*They ran as fast as they could.*

*This time there aren't as many people as last time.*

*You should save as much as possible.*

2 We can also use (not) the same + noun + as to compare people or things in this way:

*Their flat is the same size as ours.*

*The chairs should be the same height as the table.*

3 We use enough before nouns:

*I'm afraid we haven't got enough milk.*

We use enough after adjectives and adverbs:

*This car isn't comfortable enough and the other one doesn't go fast enough.*

4 We can use enough without a noun when the meaning is clear:

*Let's stop work now. We've done enough.*  
(= enough work)

5 A phrase with enough can continue with for and a noun or pronoun:

*Have we got enough bread for breakfast?*  
*This coffee isn't strong enough for me.*

6 A phrase with enough can continue with an infinitive:

*I haven't got enough space to pack my hairdryer.*  
*This bike is light enough to carry as hand baggage.*

We can also combine phrases with for and to:

*There wasn't enough time for me to finish my dinner.*

### Grammar in action

1 We use as ... as to compare two things when we are making a choice. This might be when we are deciding what to buy:

*I don't think I want a vase as tall as that red one, but the small vase is as expensive as the tall ones. I'm not sure I want to pay as much as that.*

2 Many common idioms in English use as ... as to emphasize an adjective in a description. Here are some examples:

*He was as pleased as Punch.* (= very pleased)

*Jo's face went as red as a lobster.* (= very red)

*Coffee should be as dark as night, as strong as death, and as sweet as love.*

3 We use enough in positive sentences to say that we have the right amount of something:

*We've got enough apples to last until January.*

Informally, we can use the phrase I've had enough of + noun to express frustration or impatience.

*I've had enough of this awful weather!*

TIP

4 We often use enough in a negative sentence to say that we do not have as much of something as we need:

*We don't have enough money to pay the bills.*

5 We use enough in questions to check that someone else has what they need. For example, we can make sure a guest is comfortable:

*Have you got enough room? ~ Yes, I'm OK.*

*Have you had enough potatoes? ~ Plenty, thanks.*

### A A new language course.

#### WORD FOCUS

Find words in exercise A that have these meanings:

A improving, moving forward

B a test of my abilities

Complete the conversation using the prompts and as ... as or the same ... as.

GEOFF So how's your course, Tom?

TOM It's OK. Our new teacher *is as good as the old one*<sup>0</sup> (be good / the old one).

GEOFF Are you learning a lot?

TOM Yes, but not <sup>1</sup> (much / before).

GEOFF How good is your Russian now?

TOM Well, I can <sup>2</sup> (understand / well / the other students) but I can't <sup>3</sup> (speak / fluently / them).

GEOFF Are you progressing <sup>4</sup> (quickly / you hoped)?

TOM Not really. Though I've had a lot of work recently so I haven't been attending .....<sup>5</sup> (many / lessons / I wanted).  
 We've got .....<sup>6</sup> (amount of homework / last year) though, so I hope I'll keep improving if I work at home, too.

GEOFF Are you using .....<sup>7</sup> (books / before)?  
 TOM No, this course is the next level, so it's not .....<sup>8</sup> (easy / the one last year). But that's OK because I like a challenge!

## B Always complaining!

Lewis never seems to have the right amount of the things he needs. Complete these sentences with *enough* and one of the words from the box.

often well air fast flour large money sweet strong

- 0 This hot chocolate isn't *sweet enough* to drink.
- 1 Have we got ..... to make a cake?
- 2 The bookshelf isn't ..... to hold all those books.
- 3 Do you think there's ..... in my bicycle tyres?
- 4 Have we got ..... for a new TV?
- 5 Our internet connection isn't ..... to download a film.
- 6 We haven't got a vase that's ..... for all those flowers.
- 7 His room is a mess. He doesn't tidy it .....
- 8 The old hoover didn't clean the carpet .....



## C Things I said today

Complete the sentences with *enough* and the word in brackets, making any other necessary changes.

- 0 These shoes are size 9 but Peter takes size 10.  
 The shoes are not *big enough for* (big) Peter.
- 1 It takes half an hour to walk to the station. The train leaves in 45 minutes.  
 We have ..... (time) walk to the station and catch the train.
- 2 People usually eat two sausages and we have 10.  
 We have ..... (sausages) five people.
- 3 It isn't very light so we can't take any photos.  
 It isn't ..... (light) take any photos.
- 4 The bed is 180 cm but Sally is 185 cm tall.  
 The bed isn't ..... (long) Sally.
- 5 We can't go to the beach because it's a bit cold.  
 It isn't ..... (warm) go to the beach.
- 6 He doesn't play his music loudly. It doesn't annoy the neighbours.  
 He doesn't play his music ..... (loudly) to annoy the neighbours.

7 Too slow and not quick enough mean the same thing. We can use **too** with an adjective, an adverb or quantifier like this:

*too big    too quickly  
too much noise    too few people*

8 We use **too** before an adjective or adverb:

*My new shoes are **too small**. I bought them **too quickly**.*

We use **too much**, **too many**, **too few** and **too little** before a noun. In these sentences, we can leave out the noun if the meaning is clear:

*We bought **too much paint**.*

*We thought we hadn't bought enough paint, but we'd bought **too much**. (too much = too much paint)*

9 A phrase with **too** can continue with **for** and a noun or pronoun:

*This weather is **too hot for my dad**.*

*There are **too few chairs for all these people**.*

*The teacher spoke **too fast for me**.*

10 A phrase with **too** can continue with an infinitive:

*It's **too hot to sit in the sun**.*

*There are **too few players to make a team**.*

When the subject of the sentence is (in meaning) the object of the infinitive, we omit the object, so:

*The soup was **too hot to eat**.  
(NOT *The soup was **too hot to eat it**.*)*

In negative statements, people sometimes use **too** with a meaning similar to **very**:

*I don't know **too much** about computers.  
(= I don't know **very much** ...)*

*She didn't look **too happy**. (= ... look **very happy**)*

### Grammar in action

6 We use **too** to mean 'more than enough' or when we have more of something than we need. When we go shopping, we can talk about whether the things we look at are suitable:

*I want a simple camera. This one has **too many buttons**.*

*That jacket is **too big for you**.  
I don't want anything **too expensive**. I can't pay more than about £40.*



### D Vehicle problems

Complete the sentences with **too** so that they correspond to the information given.

0 The speed limit is 100kph but Gregg's driving at 35kph.

Gregg's driving too slowly.

1 The car holds five people but there were seven in it.

There were too many people in the car.

2 Max isn't old enough to have a motorbike.

Max is too young to have a motorbike.

3 John's car was parked for two hours but he had only paid for 45 minutes.

John's car was parked for too long.

4 We haven't got enough petrol for a drive to the coast.

We've got too little petrol for a drive to the coast.

5 The tyres need more air.

There's too little air in the tyres.

6 There aren't enough service stations on this road.

There are too few service stations on this road.

7 Jenny did very badly in the exam.

Jenny didn't do too well in the exam.

## E The imperfect holiday

Complete the conversation using the words in brackets and *as ... as*, *enough* or *too*, and adding *to* or *for* where necessary.

SUE Did you enjoy your holiday?

PIPPA It didn't go ..... *as well as* ..... <sup>9</sup> we'd hoped.

LUCY Things started badly at the airport. There weren't ..... <sup>1</sup> (people) checking the luggage so the queue was enormous.

SUE But was the flight OK?

PIPPA It was one of those planes with the seats ..... <sup>2</sup> (close together) possible so you can't stretch your legs. However, the flight was ..... <sup>3</sup> (short) so it wasn't a big problem.

LUCY And there were far ..... <sup>4</sup> (many) young men who had packed far ..... <sup>5</sup> (much) in their hand luggage, so their bags were ..... <sup>6</sup> (big) to go in the lockers.

SUE What about the hotel?

PIPPA It was all right, I suppose, but we couldn't change the air conditioning, so it was ..... <sup>7</sup> (cold) me.

LUCY And the food wasn't ..... <sup>8</sup> (wonderful) the website claimed. It was much ..... <sup>9</sup> (oily). In any case, every meal was rushed so there was ..... <sup>10</sup> (time) really enjoy it.

SUE Did you visit the old town?

PIPPA Yes, it was all organized in groups, but the groups were ..... <sup>11</sup> (big). And our guide didn't speak ..... <sup>12</sup> (loudly), so it was impossible to hear her.

LUCY The cathedral was wonderful, though. It really is ..... <sup>13</sup> (spectacular) everybody says.

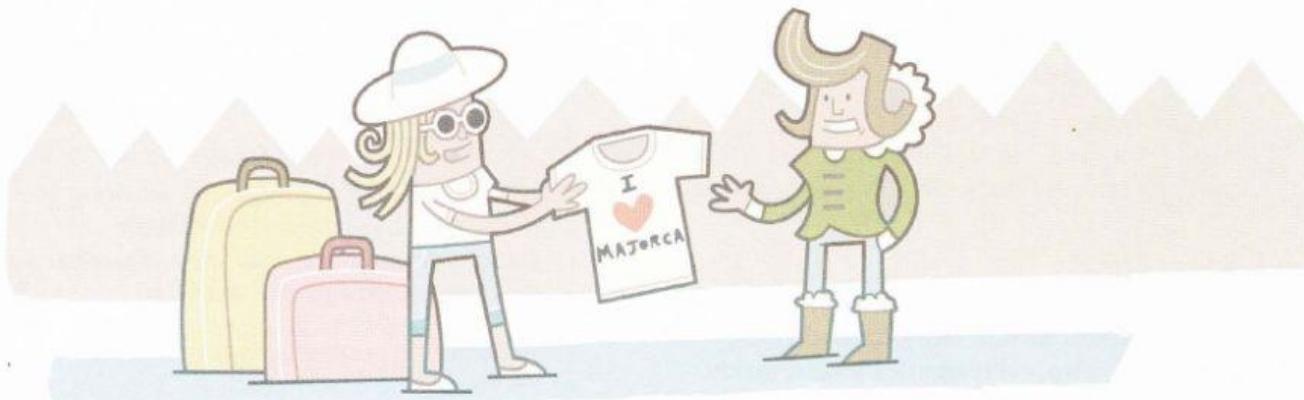
SUE And the night life?

PIPPA Great, although the bars are always ..... <sup>14</sup> (noisy) a serious conversation.

LUCY Nobody wants a serious conversation on holiday. We obviously enjoyed it because we were out so late that most days we got up ..... <sup>15</sup> (late) have breakfast.

PIPPA On the last day, we went shopping and we bought you this T-shirt. I hope it's ..... <sup>16</sup> (big) you.

SUE Oh, how nice! Yes, it's my size.



**OVER TO YOU** Now go to page 124.