GRAMMAR 2 Comparison of adverbs

>>> Compare how people do things

READ AND LISTEN >>> Grammar in context

1 1.39 **Read and listen to the music teacher. Does he believe that practice is positive?**

"It takes a lot of time and practice to play a musical instrument well. At first, beginners play more slowly than the usual tempo. They try to play as accurately as possible. Later, when they are familiar with the notes, they can play faster and more confidently. Music students sometimes use a metronome to help them keep the tempo. They have to play as quickly as the metronome beat. If they practice longer, they'll improve more quickly. The students who practice the hardest are usually the students who play the most successfully. Students who practice the least often play the worst."



STUDY

2 Complete the examples. Use Exercise 1 to help you.

Comparative and superlative adverbs

Use comparative adverbs to compare how people or things do something.
For one-syllable adverbs, add *-er* to the adverb.
For two or more syllables, use *more* + adverb.
If they practice _____ *, they'll improve* _____ .

Use superlative adverbs to compare actions by more than two people or things.
For one-syllable adverbs, add *-est* to the adverb.
For two or more syllables, use *the most* + adverb.
The students who practice _____ *are usually the students who play* _____ .
Some adverbs have irregular forms:
_____ *, best, the best / badly, worse,* _____

3 Complete the examples. Use Exercise 1 to help you.

Comparative adverbs with *as ... as*

Use *(not) as* + adverb + *as* to say two people or things do or don't do something the same.
They try to play as _____ *as possible.*
They have to play as _____ *as the metronome beat.*

See **GRAMMAR DATABASE**, page 171.

PRACTICE

4 Choose the correct options.

1 There were eight top runners in the semi-final, b the American ran ***the fastest*** / ***the most fast***.
2 The Chinese team is performing ***well*** / ***better*** tha last year.
3 The German isn't swimming ***as fast as*** / ***faster*** the Australian.
4 The British team is playing ***more carefully*** / ***most carefully*** than the French team.
5 The Mexican has jumped ***higher*** / ***the highes*** of all the competitors.
6 He's running ***the best*** / ***as well as*** the US champion.

5 1.40 **Complete the talent show conversation using comparative and superlative adverbs or adverbs that show equality or inequality. Then listen and check.**

Simon: Which of the three singers do you think has performed (1) *the best* (**well**)?
Millie: Amanda can sing (2) _____ (**loudly**) than anyone I know.
Simon: That's true. But she doesn't sing (3) _____ (**well**) as Katy.
Millie: I think Amy sings (4) _____ (**beautifu** ll than the others.
Simon: I disagree. Amy can't sing (5) _____ (**high**) as Amanda or Katy.
Millie: But she's a star. She's worked (6) _____ (**hard**) of the three.
Simon: She practices (7) _____ (**long**) than th others because she needs to.
Millie: But which of them is going to become famous (8) _____ (**fast**)?

6 Complete the sentences with names to give your opinion.

IN MY OPINION ...

1 _____ sings better than _____ .
2 _____ doesn't play _____ (the guitar, soccer) as well as _____ .
3 _____ acts as well as _____ .
4 _____ is the most hard-working student in the class.
5 _____

DO YOU AGREE?

SPEAK

7 Work in pairs. Complete the tasks.

1 Read one of your opinions from Exercise 6.
2 Your partner gives his or her opinion and explains

In my opinion, X sings better than Y.

I don't agree. Y sings better than X. X's last album was terrible.

LIVEWORKSHEETS