

Practice 1: different ways of comparing

Look at these pairs of sentences. Do they mean the same thing or are they different?

| Sentence examples | same | different |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| England is colder than Spain. Spain isn't as hot as England. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| American food isn't as expensive as English food. English food is more expensive than American. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| My German isn't as good as yours. My German is better than yours. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I'm not as hard-working as you. You are lazier than me. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| My daughter is younger than yours. Your daughter isn't as old as mine. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Cats are better than dogs. Dogs aren't as good as cats. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Write a new sentence with the same meaning.

- 1 Richard is younger than he looks. Richard isn't as old as he looks.
- 2 I didn't spend as much money as you. You spent more money than me.
- 3 The station was nearer than I thought. The station wasn't as far as I thought.
- 4 The meal didn't cost as much as I expected. The meal cost as much as I expected.
- 5 I go out less than I used to. I don't go out as much as I used to.
- 6 Karen's hair isn't as long as it used to be. Karen used to have longer hair than she does now.
- 7 I know them better than you do. You don't know them as well as I do.
- 8 There are fewer people at this meeting than at the last one. There aren't as many people at this meeting as there were at the last one.

Look at the charts comparing three laptop computers. Then complete the sentences with the comparative form of the adjectives and adverbs in parentheses.

| Product Details | T400 | XJ7 | A-50 |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Screen size | 15 inches | 17 inches | 14 inches |
| Weight | 5.5 pounds | 6 pounds | 6.5 pounds |
| Amount of time on the market | 18 months | 3 months | 9 months |
| Cost | \$565 | \$650 | \$499 |
| Customer Ratings | T400 | XJ7 | A-50 |
| Starts quickly | ★★★ | ★★ | ★★★★★ |
| Runs reliably | ★★★★★ | ★★★★ | ★★★ |
| Operates quietly | ★★★★ | ★★★ | ★★★★★ |
| Displays pictures well | ★★★ | ★★★★★ | ★★★★ |

1. (large / small) The screen of the T400 is larger than the A-50's, but it is smaller than the XJ7's.
2. (light / heavy) The XJ7 is _____ the A-50, but it is _____ the T400.
3. (new / old) The A-50 is _____ the T400, but it is _____ the XJ7.
4. (cheap / expensive) The T400 is _____ the XJ7, but it is _____ the A-50.
5. (quickly / slowly) The T400 starts _____ the XJ7, but _____ the A-50.
6. (reliably) The T400 runs _____ the XJ7 or the A-50.
7. (quietly) The A-50 operates _____ the T400 or the XJ7.
8. (well) The XJ7 displays pictures _____ the T400 or the A-50.

Use the words in brackets to complete the sentences. Use **much** / **a bit** etc. + a comparative form. Use **than** where necessary.

- 1 Her illness was much more serious than we thought at first. (much / serious)
- 2 This bag is too small. I need something (much / big)
- 3 I'm afraid the problem is it seems. (much / complicated)
- 4 It was very hot yesterday. Today it's (a bit / cool)
- 5 I enjoyed our visit to the museum. It was, I expected.
(far / interesting)
- 6 You're driving too fast. Can you drive? (a bit / slowly)
- 7 It's to learn a foreign language in a country where it is spoken. (a lot / easy)
- 8 I thought she was younger than me, but in fact she's
(slightly / old)

9 **EDIT.** Read the article about trash in the desert. Find and correct eight more errors with superlatives.

Cameron's Camels

The Arabian Desert in the Middle East is one of the ~~most hot~~^{hottest} environments on Earth, and it has the ~~less~~ amount of rainfall. But to the camel, it is home. The camel is one of the most strong animals in the world. Camels can go for many days with only a little food and water. When they do find water, they probably drink the most quick of any land animal. Adult camels can drink about 25 to 30 gallons (95–114 liters) in ten minutes. Unfortunately, finding water is not the seriousest problem camels face. Most dangerous threat to camels comes from humans. Tourists in the desert leave trash behind. Camels think the trash is food and eat it. This is very dangerous for the camels, because it can kill them.

One of the most polluted part of the desert is outside the city of Abu Dhabi. Each year, many camels die there from eating trash. Cameron Oliver has been trying to change this. Since he was eight years old, Cameron has been telling people that trash is very dangerous for camels. Of all the young people in Abu Dhabi, Cameron has worked most hard to help the camels. When he was 12, Cameron became the

most young person to win an Abu Dhabi award for community service.



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1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____
5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____

- 1 I think she is still ill. She looks even than last week.
- 2 His results are not his colleague's.
- 3 Which of the three supermarkets do you think has range of products?
- 4 He has potential than anyone thought.
- 5 It's becoming to attract new customers. What we need is a new strategy.
- 6 In the last few months, competition has become .
- 7 Things are better organised now – we have problems than before.
- 8 There are more accidents on this road because it's than the others.
- 9 I chose this car as my favourite because it's all the ones I have driven.
- 10 She's a lot in the new job than she was in the previous one.