# EXERCISE 46: Sentences—Comparatives

In some sentences in the Structure Section on the Paper-Based TOEFL, you will be asked to identify the correct comparative. A comparative can be a word or phrase that expresses similarity or difference. A comparative can also be a word ending like *-er* or *-est* that expresses a degree of comparison with adjectives and adverbs. Choose the correct answer in the incomplete sentences. Choose the incorrect word or phrase in the underlined choices.

1. Tuition at an American university runs _____ twenty thousand dollars a semester.
   - Ⓐ so high as
   - Ⓑ as high to
   - Ⓒ as high as
   - Ⓓ as high than

2. Alligators are about the same color than crocodiles, although the adults may be slightly darker with broader heads and blunter noses.
   - Ⓐ about
   - Ⓑ than
   - Ⓒ may be
   - Ⓓ blunter

3. Laser discs provide images of best quality than those of either television signals or video tapes.
   - Ⓐ provide
   - Ⓑ best quality
   - Ⓒ those
   - Ⓓ either

4. The cost of a thirty-second commercial on a network television station is _____ for most businesses.
   - Ⓐ so much
   - Ⓑ much
   - Ⓒ very much
   - Ⓓ much too much

5. The New York City subway system is the most longest underground railroad operating in the world.
   - Ⓐ subway system
   - Ⓑ the most longest
   - Ⓒ underground railroad
   - Ⓓ operating

6. School children in the same grade in American schools are usually the same old as their classmates.
   - Ⓐ the same grade
   - Ⓑ are
   - Ⓒ usually
   - Ⓓ the same old

7. The seed heads of teasel plants raise the nap on coarse tweed cloth _____ than do the machine tools invented to replace them.
   - Ⓐ more efficiently
   - Ⓑ efficiently
   - Ⓒ more efficient
   - Ⓓ most efficient

8. Benjamin Franklin was the editor of the larger newspaper in the colonies, a diplomatic representative to France and later to England, and the inventor of many useful devices.
   - Ⓐ was
   - Ⓑ the larger
   - Ⓒ the inventor
   - Ⓓ many

9. The standard for cleanliness in the area where a microchip is manufactured is same that of an operating room in a hospital.
   - Ⓐ where a microchip is manufactured
   - Ⓑ is
   - Ⓒ same
   - Ⓓ that of an operating room in a hospital.

10. The North American robin is only _____ the European and African robins.
    - Ⓐ half big
    - Ⓑ as big half
    - Ⓒ half as big as
    - Ⓓ big by half

11. Mountain bikes differ ordinary bicycles in that they have ten or more gears, a more rugged frame, and wider treads on the tires.
    - Ⓐ differ
    - Ⓑ they
    - Ⓒ more rugged
    - Ⓓ wider

12. As a rule, the more rapid the heart rate, faster the pulse.
    - Ⓐ As a rule,
    - Ⓑ the more
    - Ⓒ the heart rate,
    - Ⓓ faster

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