4.2 Grammar

Comparatives and superlatives, *(not) as … as, too/(not) enough*



4-D experience

Your seat moves, you feel water on your face and you can smell something. It's the latest 4-D cinema experience. The screens are bigger and the seats are in the most comfortable position for your eyes and neck. But is it fun? 'It's more exciting than 3-D,' said fifteen-year-old Adam, 'because it's brighter and louder.' His friend Jessica agrees. 'The most exciting scene was in the car. I felt like I was driving, but my car wasn't fast enough.' For others, the experience isn't as good as 3-D and you can feel sick. 'The moving seats were worse than the sound!' said Alice. 'I was too uncomfortable.' Some special effects are also scarier in 4-D. Of course, the tickets are also more expensive, but it seems some people are happy to pay for 'the best feeling in the world!'

1 Do you prefer watching films at home or at the cinema? Why?

2 4.07 Read the article and choose the correct option.

1 Adam, Jessica and Alice watched a film in *3-D* / *4-D*.
2 They watched the film *at home* / *at the cinema*.

3 Study the Grammar box. Find more examples of comparatives and superlatives in the text.

GRAMMAR **Comparatives and superlatives, *(not) as … as, too/(not) enough***

We use comparatives to compare two things.
*The screens are **bigger**. It's **more exciting than** 3-D.*

We also use *(not) as* + adjective + *as* to compare two things.
*The experience **isn't as good as** 3-D.*

We use superlatives to compare three or more things.
*It's **the latest** 4-D experience.*
*It's **the best** feeling in the world.*

We use *less* and *the least* with adjectives of two or more syllables to mean 'not so much'.
*The musical is **less popular than** the film.*
*The love scene is **the least exciting** in the film.*

We use *too* to say things are 'in excess', and *not enough* to say things are 'not sufficient'.
*I was **too uncomfortable**. My car **wasn't fast enough**.*

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4 Complete the sentences with the comparative or superlative form of the words in brackets.

1 They filmed the *best* (good) *Doctor Who* episodes in Wales.
2 It's (…) (cheap) to watch films at home than at the cinema and it's (…) (relaxing).
3 *Top Gear* is the (…) (funny) show on TV.
4 The book is often (…) (interesting) than the film. [4] *more interesting*
5 The (…) (expensive) cinema ticket I bought cost £20. [5] *most expensive*
6 It can be noisy in the cinema. The (…) (bad) thing is when people keep talking. [6] *worst*

[2] *cheaper, more relaxing* [3] *funniest*

5 Order the words to make sentences.

1 comfortable / the seat / enough / wasn't / .
The seat wasn't comfortable enough.
2 the cinema / than / less / popular / is / the theatre / .
3 crowded / the stadium / too / was / .
4 good as / as / wasn't / the play / the film / .
5 the / in the show / least / he is / famous actor / .

6 Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first one.

1 The adults aren't as good as the children in that film.
The children are *better than* the adults in that film.
2 Our town isn't big enough for a theatre.
Our town is (…) for a theatre.
3 The film is funnier than the book.
The book isn't (…) the film.
4 The main character in the film is too boring.
The main character in the film isn't (…).
5 The French thriller isn't as scary as the Danish thriller.
The Danish thriller is (…) the French thriller.
6 Horror series are less popular than detective series.
Horror series aren't (…) detective series.

7 CHALLENGE What's your opinion? Write two sentences for each comparison. Use the adjectives in brackets or your own ideas.

1 the theatre/the cinema (cheap/exciting)
The cinema is cheaper than the theatre.
The theatre isn't as exciting as the cinema.
2 comedies/documentaries (funny/interesting)
3 books/films (good/relaxing)

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