

Grammar Practice

Comparatives & Degrees

Read the theory and solve.

Comparison of Adjectives, Adverbs, and Nouns.

13a Complete the conversation. Use the comparative or superlative form of the words in brackets.

A: How are you enjoying the new house?
B: It's nice. It's (0) *more spacious* (spacious) than our old house and one of the (1) (good) things is having our own garden.
A: So it's much (2) (good) here than in London, then?
B: Well, I'm not sure. (3) (bad) thing about London was the pollution – and it's certainly (4) (polluted) here in the country. And I suppose it's (5) (stressful). I sleep (6) (soundly) here without all the noise. But I miss the cultural diversity of London. Shopping there was much (7) (interesting) than it is here. And the people here are (8) (varied) than they are in London. On the other hand, it's (9) (safe) here – London has the second (10) (high) crime rate in the UK!
A: Well, I know this is (11) (far) from London you've ever lived but it's one of the (12) (beautiful) places I've ever seen.

13b Complete the conversation. Use the comparative or superlative of *much/many, little or few*.

o 0 A: Why are you late?
B: Sorry. There was *more* traffic than usual this morning.
1 1 A: Doctors recommend eating salt.
B: I know. Salt's bad for you.
2 2 A: All these products are friendly to the environment but this one causes damage.
B: Can you prove that?
3 3 A: I wish there were hope that we will succeed.
B: Don't give up!
4 4 A: He has hobbies than his wife.
B: That's because he's always working.
5 5 A: A lot of people have read the book, you know.
B: Yes, that's true – but even have seen the film.
6 6 A: We have information about her life after she became successful than about her earlier life.
B: And I suppose we have information about her childhood.
A: That's right. We know almost nothing about it.
7 7 A: Who got marks in the test? Anke, Serena or Malcolm?
B: Anke, of course. She made mistakes. In fact, she only made one.
8 8 A: I'm so tired! I wish I had free time and work.
B: Well, can't you go away for a few days and relax?

13c Complete the memo. Use the comparative or superlative form of the words in brackets.

MEMO

The company's annual report shows that unfortunately, our sales figures were (0) *lower* (low) than those for the previous year. This is no surprise but what is (1) (alarming) is that a number of our (2) (old) clients have switched to another supplier.

We are aware that there are (3) [expensive] suppliers than ourselves but cost may not be (4) [important] factor in our clients' decision to switch suppliers. One former client, for example, has said that their new supplier is not only (5) [efficient] but also offers a (6) [good] all-round service. Reports like these are (7) [worrying] than anything else. If we cannot compete (8) [effectively], then we will not survive. We have to make every effort to convince our clients that we can still give them (9) [good] value for their money than anyone else.

Comparative Structures.

14a Complete the sentences. Use the correct form of the words in brackets.

- 0 He's driving *much more quickly than* he should. (much / quickly)
- 1 Football is sport in Europe today. (by far / popular)
- 2 My car is yours but I think it's a car. (not / expensive, good)
- 3 I don't have you but I'm (nearly / much / money, far / happy)
- 4 Ted got Valerie did. (same / mark)
- 5 Audrey's personality is her brother's. (very similar)
- 6 The house looks the way it looked before it was painted. (completely / different)
- 7 He cared and about the band and eventually he decided to leave. (little, little)
- 8 I become, mistakes I seem to make. (old, many)

14b Complete the article. Use the correct form of the words in brackets.

WEATHER ON OTHER PLANETS

If you think the weather on Earth is weird, the weather on other planets is (0) *far stranger* (far / strange). Even though the sun shines (1) (much / weakly) on Mars than it does on Earth, Mars gets (2) (far / many) ultraviolet tanning rays. At the same time, the temperature on Mars is usually (3) (much / cold) than the temperature at our North Pole. That's warm, though, compared to Neptune's (4) (large) moon Triton, which scientists believe is (5) (cold) place in our solar system. Are you looking for somewhere (6) (a little / warm) than Mars? Then try Venus, where the sun is so hot that a picnic lunch would vapourise (7) (almost / quickly) you unpacked it. We might complain about the weather on Earth but it's (8) (by far / good) place to live in our solar system!

