

Grammar Lab

Comparatives and Degrees

Read the theory and solve

1 Use the words below to write comparative sentences.

- 0 Canada / big / Britain. *Canada is bigger than Britain.*
- 1 This towel / dry / that one
- 2 Magazines / interesting / newspapers
- 3 My spelling / bad / Lucy's
- 4 The airport / far / the railway station
- 5 Paris / beautiful / Berlin
- 6 Steak / good / lamb

2 Use the words below to write superlative sentences. 2.41 Listen and check.

- 0 France / large country / the European Union *France is the largest country in the European Union.*
- 1 Mario / old student / my class
- 2 Selima / tallest / the athletes
- 3 New York / big city / North America
- 4 That / beautiful tree / the garden
- 5 Harry / experienced / the workers
- 6 Mine / nice / the rooms

3 **GRAMMAR IN USE** Find six more mistakes in the tour guide's statement and correct them.

 2.42 Listen and check.

'We only have four working elephants here at Songklan so it is ^{smaller} ~~more small~~ than the other elephant farms in the area. The largest elephant farm of this part of Thailand has 30 elephants! The four elephants here have different backgrounds and personalities. Mao-Mao travelled the most far; he came from Chaing Rai in the north of the country. Changra is the goodest worker, he loves lifting wood. But he's very greedy. He eats a lot more than the others! Selma is the most bad worker, she's very lazy. She's only eighteen years old but each year she gets lazier and more lazier! Tanan is friendlier than the other elephants; she really loves people.'

elephant	age	weight
Changra	22 years old	4500 kg
Selma	18 years old	1750 kg
Mao-Mao	24 years old	5000 kg
Tanan	17 years old	1500 kg



4 Write sentences about the elephants. Use information from Exercise 3 and the words in brackets.

- 0 (the lightest) *Tanan is the lightest of the elephants.*
- 1 (the heaviest)
- 2 (Changra / younger)
- 3 (Selma / older)
- 4 (the youngest)
- 5 (greedier / the others)
- 6 (the friendliest)

1 Choose the best answer, A or B.

- 0 Your sunglasses are similar to mine.
A They are exactly the same. (B) They are almost the same.
- 1 Jackie isn't as friendly as Lucy.
A Lucy is friendlier than Jackie. B Jackie is friendlier than Lucy.
- 2 This bed is as comfortable as my old one.
A My old bed was more comfortable. B The beds are both comfortable.
- 3 Ana isn't nearly as rich as Susie.
A Susie is much richer than Ana. B Susie is a little richer than Ana.
- 4 Our TV is almost as big as Michael's.
A Michael's TV is a little bigger than ours. B Michael's TV is much bigger than ours.
- 5 I had one of the best exam results in the school.
A Nobody had a better result. B One or two people had a better result.

2 GRAMMAR IN USE The words in the box are missing from the text. Put them in the correct positions. (They are in the same order as in the text.) 2.43 Listen and check.

~~lot~~ of far to from not more

Television viewers are sometimes surprised to learn that natural history programmes are often a ^{lot} more popular than soap operas or films. One the most famous presenters is David Attenborough. He has been making programmes about nature since the 1960s.

In those days Jacques Cousteau was by the most famous TV presenter of nature programmes. Although Cousteau only made programmes about life in the sea, his style of presenting was similar Attenborough's – they both seem like friendly uncles who really love nature.

Of course, today's programmes are different those of fifty years ago. In those days cameras were nearly as small and light as they are now. Today the technology is much advanced and there are digital special effects which can help us understand the complexity of the natural world.

3 Complete the second sentence so it means the same as the first, using the words in brackets. Use two to five words in your answer. 2.44 Listen and check.

- 0 Lions are stronger than tigers. (aren't)
Tigers aren't as strong as lions.
- 1 I'm not as old as my sister. (than)
My sister
- 2 Our cat is slightly smaller than Daniel's. (quite)
Our cat isn't Daniel's.
- 3 Look, Melanie's dress is really similar to your mother's. (same)
Look, Melanie's dress your mother's.
- 4 Nokia phones are not the same as Motorola ones. (from)
Nokia phones Motorola ones.
- 5 The Metropole is much more expensive than any other hotel in our town. (far)
The Metropole is hotel in our town.
- 6 Prices aren't quite as low as they used to be. (bit)
Prices are they used to be.

