

Grammar in context 1

Comparatives and superlatives

1 ★★ Read the sentences and choose the correct alternative.

- That's more boring/the most boring programme I've seen in a long time!
- I saw two horror films this weekend, but the second one was much scarier/scariest than the first one.
- José's more fluent/the most fluent speaker in our English class.
- You'll have a faster/fastest connection with this mobile device.
- I didn't like that film. It was more violent/most violent than I expected.
- Chris Hemsworth is one of the bigger/the biggest film stars in the world today.

2 ★★ Complete the text with the comparative or superlative form of the adjectives given. Add *than* where necessary.

Cinema records

posted today

For a lot of us, there aren't many things

(a) _____ (enjoyable) seeing a good film. But do you know what (b) _____ (long) film ever is? It's an experimental film called *Logistics*. It lasts for nearly 36 days and it's about how they make pedometers. Has anyone ever had a (c) _____ (strange) idea for a film? Possibly not!

The film *Cinématon* is

(d) _____ (short) *Logistics* but it's (e) _____ (long) most films. It lasts 151 hours and contains short scenes of celebrities and some of (f) _____ (close) friends of the director.

When we see a good film, usually

(g) _____ (memorable) part is the acting. But who is (h) _____ (successful) actor ever? Possibly it's Meryl Streep. She's received more than 20 Oscar nominations!

Do you know what her (i) _____ (late) film is? (j) _____ (young) actor to receive an Oscar is Tatum O'Neal. She was only 10 when she won in 1974. So she was probably (k) _____ (young) you are now!

Modifying comparatives

3 ★★ Complete the sentences using one of the two modifying expressions and the comparative form of the adjective given.

- Pong, one of the first video games, was very simple but Fortnite Battle Royale is very complex. Fortnite Battle Royale is _____ (a lot / a bit difficult).
- The Walt Disney Studios in the US occupy an area of 21 hectares but the Ramoji Film City in India occupies 674 hectares. The Ramoji Film City is _____ (slightly / much big).
- The actor Dwayne Johnson ('The Rock') has a fortune of \$300 million but Will Smith has \$350 million. Will Smith is _____ (a bit / far rich).
- 3.57 billion viewers saw the 2018 FIFA® World Cup in Russia, but 3.6 billion viewers saw the 2016 Olympics® in Rio. The Olympics were _____ (far / slightly popular).
- The first TV channel appeared in 1928 but the first streaming service started in 1995. The first TV channel is _____ (a lot / slightly old).
- There are 50 actors in the film *Captain Marvel*, but 99 in *Avengers: Endgame*. The number of actors in *Avengers: Endgame* is _____ (much / a bit high).

less ... than, (not) as ... as

4 ★★ Rewrite the sentences using the words given. Do not change the meaning.

- Video games are more interesting than films. (less) Watching films _____
- Science-fiction series are more gripping than comedies. (as) Comedies _____
- Dramas aren't as informative as documentaries. (less) Dramas _____
- Comedies are less violent than crime series. (as) Comedies _____
- Sometimes the news is as moving as a drama. (less) Sometimes the news _____

Grammar challenge ★★

5 There is a word missing in each sentence. Write an appropriate word in the correct place.

- Watching sports live is more exciting watching it on TV.
- The X Factor* is popular than any other talent show.
- What's scariest film you've seen?
- I thought the film was 90 minutes long but it lasted 3 hours! It was longer than I expected.
- Your smart phone cost £120 but mine cost £130. Mine is more expensive.
- This is the most exciting film I ever seen.