

1 Getting started

A 4.01 Listen to the responses to the survey question. How do the people keep in touch?

Figure 8 out

Figure it out **B** Can you complete the sentences? Circle the correct words. Use the survey to help you.

1. Mayumi says texting is **quicker** / **quick** than calling. It's more fun **than** / **that** calling, too.
2. Tim thinks real cards are more **personal** / **nice** than e-cards.
3. Kayla says that video conferencing is **less** / **more** expensive than a business trip.
4. Paco's parents think that video calling is **good** / **better** than phone calls.
5. Alma says nothing is **worse** / **bad** than spam in your inbox.

2 Grammar Comparative adjectives 4.02

Short adjectives

Adjective + -er

Texting is **quicker** and **easier** than calling.

It's **nicer** to get a real card than an e-card.

Long adjectives

more + adjective

less + adjective

Real cards are **more personal than** e-cards.

Video conferences are **less expensive** than trips.

Irregular adjectives

good ▶ better

bad ► **worse**

Video calls are **better than** phone calls.

Nothing is **worse than** spam in your inbox.

Extra practice p. 149

Notice

slow

► slower

nice

► **nicer**

easy

► **easier**

big

► **bigger**

But


fun

► [more fun](#)

In conversation

The top adjectives after *more* are *expensive*, *convenient*, *important*, *interesting*, and *fun*.

A Complete the conversations with the comparative form of the adjectives and *than* if needed. Then practice with a partner.

1. A Do you like e-cards? I think they're more interesting than (interesting) real cards.
B True. And they're _____ (easy) to send, too. Though they're a bit _____ (personal) real cards.
2. A Do you ever use video calling? Our grandparents think it's _____ (nice) because they can see us. It's _____ (good) the phone.
B Yeah, and it's _____ (expensive) international phone calls.
3. A Do you prefer your tablet or your laptop?
B My laptop. It's _____ (big), but it's _____ (useful) a tablet. Tablets are _____ (difficult) to work on.
A Yeah? My sister prefers her tablet. She says it's _____ (light) her laptop, so it's _____ (convenient) to carry around.
4. A Do you use email much these days? I don't. I just use my social network.
B Me too. It's _____ (efficient) email. And _____ (fun). It's _____ (good) texting, too. Texting's _____ (bad) email.
- 

3 More than you!

Grammar Complete the sentences with *more*, *less*, or *fewer*.

1. Nancy Wow! Look at your inbox. It's full of junk mail. You get a lot more junk mail than I do.
Bill I know. I guess I get a lot of emails, generally. Look – 50 today.
Nancy Yeah. I get about three or four a day. You get a lot _____ emails than I do.
2. Julie My cell phone bill was really high this month. I really need to make _____ calls. Or talk _____ than I do now. Look – it was \$65.
Paula Actually, that's not bad. Mine was \$95. My cell phone costs _____ than yours.
3. Dan You know, I only had four text messages last month. I'm getting _____ text messages than phone calls. I guess people prefer to call me these days.
Eric Yeah? Actually, I like instant messaging _____ than talking.
4. Miki Are you still working? You spend _____ time online than anyone I know.
Larry I know. I really should work _____ and spend _____ time with you and the kids.
5. Ben Oh, no! The Internet is down again! I need to change my Internet service provider to yours. You seem to have _____ problems with your provider than I do.
Paul Maybe. I know my Internet connection goes down _____ than yours, but it costs a lot _____ than yours, too.

1 Phone situations

Vocabulary **A** Choose the correct word to complete each phone expression.

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| 1. call me <u>c</u> | a. number | b. off | c. back |
| 2. have another ____ | a. call | b. number | c. mistake |
| 3. leave a ____ | a. back | b. message | c. call |
| 4. have the wrong ____ | a. number | b. mistake | c. another |
| 5. hold ____ | a. on | b. in | c. call |
| 6. get cut ____ | a. back | b. on | c. off |
| 7. break ____ | a. back | b. up | c. on |

2 How do they respond?

Grammar
and
vocabulary

Circle the best response for each phone expression.

1. I can't hear you. You're breaking up.
 - a. I have another call.
 - b. Call me back later.
2. Please leave a message.
 - a. Hi, Frank. This is Manny. Call me at home.
 - b. Good-bye.
3. Can you hold on, please?
 - a. Sure, no problem.
 - b. I got cut off.
4. Oh, I'm sorry. I think I have the wrong number.
 - a. One moment, please.
 - b. No problem.
5. Good morning, Cambridge University Press.
 - a. Would you like to leave a message?
 - b. Could I speak to Sally Smith, please?
6. Did you get my message?
 - a. Yeah, I think I did.
 - b. No problem.



2 I just need to . . .

Conversation
strategies

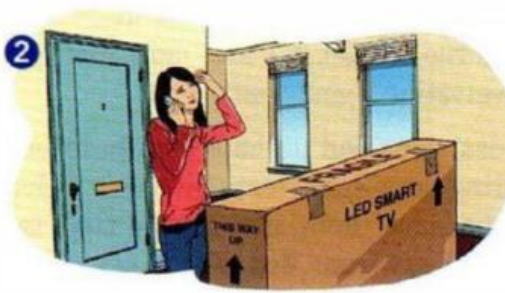
Add *just* to the sentences to make them softer.

1. I need to ask you a few questions.
2. Sure. Can you wait a minute?
3. I have to answer the door.
4. Could you hold on a second?
5. I need to turn off the faucet.
6. Sorry. I need to take another call.
7. I'm calling to find out about your test.
8. I have to tell you one thing.

I just need to ask you a few questions.

3 Listening and strategies Sorry about that!

A 4.11 Listen to the conversations. Why is each person calling? Write the reasons under the pictures.



B 4.11 Listen again. Check (✓) the reasons for the two interruptions in each conversation.

1. ☐ She got another call.
☐ They lost the connection.
☐ Her battery ran out.
☐ She ordered a coffee.

2. ☐ The TV wasn't working.
☐ There was traffic noise.
☐ She dropped her phone.
☐ The pizza arrived.

3. ☐ He had to find his wallet.
☐ He met a friend.
☐ He went to the store.