

USE OF ENGLISH 1

1 Read the grammar box. Complete the questions using the correct form of the word in brackets.

- Do you speak English (good) than your parents?
- What time of the day do you study (efficiently)?
- If your homework is (difficult), who do you talk to?
- Can you run (fast) as your friends?
- If you're stressed, what can help you feel (relaxed)?
- Who tells (funny) jokes in your class?

explore grammar

comparative forms: adjectives and adverbs

- A** adjectives/adverbs with one or two syllables
Women are **more likely** to have the condition **than** men.
- B** adjectives/adverbs with more than two syllables
Some people experience music **more emotionally** because of the colours it produces.
- C** irregular adjectives/adverbs
Our sense of direction is often **worse**.
- D** comparing one item in a group with other items in the same group
I have **the most common** form of the condition.
- E** adjectives/adverbs that show when something is more than necessary (too) or not sufficient (not enough)
Suddenly the background sounds can become **too loud**.
- F** comparing two equal things (as ... as) or two different things (not as ... as)
They perform **as well as** others in most subjects.
We often **don't do as well as** our peers at maths.
- G** double comparatives for emphasis and to show continual change
The older I get, **the keener** I am to keep it to myself.
- H** adverbs of degree
If I feel very stressed, the colours feel **much stronger**.

2 Work in pairs and discuss the questions in Ex 1.

3 Read the article and complete it with these words or phrases.

as well as better finer more accurately more upset
not as good as the most debated too

Science of senses



A stinky gym bag in your kitchen? Who will be ¹ by the smell – the men or the women in your family? Some scientists suggest that women not only smell, but feel, taste, and hear ² than men.

Take colours, for example. One study suggests that men are ³ women at distinguishing between shades of colour, although they focus well on rapidly changing images. As for touch, small fingers have a ⁴ sense of touch, whether male or female.

Hearing is possibly one of ⁵ areas, when talking about the senses. Evidence shows that boys hear ⁶ girls at birth, but with age, a man's hearing may soon deteriorate. However, environmental factors could play a role in this. Women may also be ⁷ at identifying different flavours, as studies have shown that they have more taste buds on their tongue.

Going back to the smelly gym bag – yes, it's likely that Mum will be the most freaked out by it. But is that because women's brains have more 'smell cells' or because you were ⁸ lazy to move it?

4 e Rewrite the sentences using the word given. Use between two and five words, including the word given.

- I couldn't hear her because she spoke too quietly.
LOUDLY
She didn't speak hear her.
- The coffee was weaker than I liked.
AS
The coffee I liked.
- Sam is a deeper thinker than Ben.
THINKS
Sam Ben.
- The experience was too boring to repeat.
INTERESTING
The experience was to repeat.
- She's the best cook in her class.
CAN
She else in her class.
- I've never had such a strange feeling.
EVER
That's the had.

Speak up

5 Work in pairs. Talk about the things you have tasted, smelled, seen and heard over the last 24 hours.