

Workbook exercises unit 9

Complete the following grammar exercises. When you're finished, click on "Email my answers to my teacher".

- 4** Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in parentheses. You may need to add extra words.
- 1 Emmanuel is _____ athlete we've ever had in this school. (good)
 - 2 Our swimming team is terrible—and we're getting _____ and _____ all the time! (bad)
 - 3 That was _____ football game I've ever seen! Our team was awful! (disappointing)
 - 4 _____ I spend in the gym, _____ I get! (long, hungry)
 - 5 I only started playing golf two months ago. But I'm feeling _____ and _____ each time I play. (confident)
 - 6 Brendon is _____ baseball fan I've ever met; he never misses a game! (dedicated)
 - 7 _____ you skate, _____ it becomes. You really must wear a helmet. (fast, dangerous)
 - 8 _____ I've ever run is twelve kilometers. I was exhausted afterward! (far)

Modifying comparisons

5 Complete the words in the online interview.

Today's online chat is with competitions guru Mia Leung. Join us live from 12:00 EST.



I Mia, you've won over 200 competitions. How?

M It's not that I'm a ⁽¹⁾l ___ luckier than other people, but I do have some strategies for people who want to become a ⁽²⁾I ___ better at winning competitions.

I Tell us more.

M If you enter lots of competitions, you are ⁽³⁾f ___ more likely to win something. And don't forget competitions by local businesses. Sometimes only a few people enter them so your chance of winning is ⁽⁴⁾m ___ higher than in other competitions. You're ⁽⁵⁾n ___ near as likely to win a national competition—especially one for a big prize.

I OK.

M In national competitions, you often have to answer a question in 25 words. The competition judges see hundreds of sentences, so if your one is funny, you have a ⁽⁶⁾s ___ better chance of winning. If you can't think of anything funny, then make your entry rhyme. That's ⁽⁷⁾j ___ as good as a joke because the judges can remember it.

I Any other advice?

M Yes. Sometimes you can enter many times. I once won a vacation trip like that. It's not ⁽⁸⁾n ___ as difficult as you think!

BRING IT TOGETHER

7 Choose the correct options to complete the text.

The long jump competition in the 1991 World Championships in Tokyo was the ⁽¹⁾*greater / greatest* competition I've ever seen. The thing ⁽²⁾*that / what* made it special was the rivalry between Carl Lewis and Mike Powell. These athletes were ⁽³⁾*slightly / far* better than all the others in the competition. No one else could jump ⁽⁴⁾*near / nearly* as far as them. Lewis jumped an amazing 8.91 meters, but then Powell jumped ⁽⁵⁾*slight / slightly* further—8.95 meters—to break the world record and win the gold medal. Powell's world record has been unbeaten for over 20 years.

In the past, records were broken all the time. In the 1960s, the long jump record was

The End of Records?



broken nine times. This was because of improving sports science. The ⁽⁶⁾*best / better* shape the athletes were in, the better they performed. However, some scientists believe we're now reaching the end of sports records. What they say ⁽⁷⁾*it's / is* that there's a limit to how fast or far a human being can run or jump, and they think that today's athletes are already at that limit.

This phenomenon is ⁽⁸⁾*just / quite* as common in women's sports as in men's. In the women's 1500 meters the ⁽⁹⁾*faster / fastest* time ever recorded is 3:50.46, a record set by China's Qu Yunxia in 1993. The reason ⁽¹⁰⁾*why / who* Qu's record remains the fastest and Powell's record remains the longest is because that they may be the absolute human maximum for those events.