

A **much / a lot etc. + comparative**

Before comparatives you can use:

much a lot far (= a lot) a bit a little slightly (= a little)

- I felt ill earlier, but I feel **much better** now. (or **a lot better**)
- Don't go by train. It's **a lot more expensive**. (or **much more expensive**)
- Could you speak **a bit more slowly**? (or **a little more slowly**)
- This bag is **slightly heavier** than the other one.
- The problem is **far more serious** than we thought at first.

B **any / no + comparative**You can use **any** and **no** + comparative (**any longer / no bigger** etc.):

- I've waited long enough. I'm not waiting **any longer**. (=not even a little longer)
- We expected their apartment to be very big, but it's **no bigger** than ours.
or ... it **isn't any bigger** than ours. (=not even a little bigger)
- How do you feel now? Do you feel **any better**?
- This hotel is better than the other one, and it's **no more expensive**.

Use the words in brackets to complete the sentences. Use **much / a bit etc. + a comparative form. Use **than** where necessary.**

- 1 The problem is much more serious than we thought at first. (much / serious)
- 2 This bag is too small. I need something (much / big)
- 3 I liked the museum. It was I expected. (a lot / interesting)
- 4 It was very hot yesterday. Today it's (a little / cool)
- 5 I'm afraid the problem is it seems. (far / complicated)
- 6 You're driving too fast. Can you drive ? (a bit / slowly)
- 7 I thought he was younger than me, but in fact he's (slightly / old)

Complete the sentences using **any/no + comparative. Use **than** where necessary.**

- 1 I've waited long enough. I'm not waiting any longer
- 2 I'm sorry I'm a bit late, but I couldn't get here
- 3 This shop isn't expensive. The prices are anywhere else.
- 4 I need to stop for a rest. I can't walk
- 5 The traffic isn't especially bad today. It's usual.

A

Study this example situation:



Sarah, Joe and David are all very rich. Sarah has \$20 million, Joe has \$15 million and David has \$10 million. So:

Joe is rich.

He is **richer than** David.

But he **isn't as rich as** Sarah.
(= Sarah is **richer than** he is)

Some more examples of **not as ... (as)**:

- Jack **isn't as old as** he looks. (= he looks **older than** he is)
- The town centre **wasn't as crowded as** usual. (= it is usually **more crowded**)
- Lisa **didn't do as well** in the exam **as** she had hoped. (= she had hoped to do **better**)
- The weather is better today. It's **not as cold**. (= yesterday was **colder than** today)
- I **don't know as many** people **as** you do. (= you know **more** people **than** me)
- 'How much was it? Fifty dollars?' 'No, **not as much** as that.' (= **less than** fifty dollars)

You can also say **not so ... (as)**:

- It's not warm, but it's **not so** cold **as** yesterday. (= it's not **as cold as** ...)

Less than is similar to **not as ... as**:

- I spent **less** money **than** you. (= I **didn't** spend **as** much money **as** you)
- The city centre was **less** crowded **than** usual. (= it **wasn't as** crowded **as** usual)
- I play tennis **less than** I used to. (= I **don't** play **as** much **as** I used to)

B

We also use **as ... as** (*but not so ... as*) in positive sentences and in questions:

- I'm sorry I'm late. I got here **as fast as** I could.
- There's plenty of food. You can have **as much as** you want.
- Can you send me the information **as soon as** possible, please?
- Let's walk. It's just **as quick as** taking the bus.

also **twice as ... as**, **three times as ... as** etc.:

- Petrol is **twice as expensive as** it was a few years ago.
- Their house is about **three times as big as** ours.
(or ... **three times the size of** ours)

Complete the sentences using **as ... as**.

- 1 I'm tall, but you are taller. I'm not **as tall as** you.
- 2 My salary is high, but yours is higher. My salary isn't **as high as** yours.
- 3 You know a bit about cars, but I know more.
You don't **know as much as** I do.
- 4 We are busy today, but we were busier yesterday.
We aren't **as busy as** we were yesterday.
- 5 I still feel bad, but I felt a lot worse earlier.
I don't **feel as bad as** I did earlier.
- 6 Our neighbours have lived here for quite a long time, but we've lived here longer.
Our neighbours haven't **lived as long as** we have.
- 7 I was a little nervous before the interview, but usually I'm a lot more nervous.
I wasn't **as nervous as** I usually am.

Write a new sentence with the same meaning.

- 1 Jack is younger than he looks. Jack isn't as old as he looks.
- 2 I didn't spend as much money as you. You spent more money than me.
- 3 The station was nearer than I thought. The station wasn't as far as I thought.
- 4 The meal didn't cost as much as I expected. The meal cost less than I expected.
- 5 I watch TV less than I used to. I don't watch TV as much as I used to.
- 6 Karen's hair isn't as long as it used to be. Karen used to have longer hair than she does now.
- 7 I know them better than you do. You don't know them as well as I do.
- 8 There are fewer students in this class than in the other one. There aren't as many students in this class as in the other one.

Complete the sentences using **as ... as**. Choose from:

fast hard long often quietly soon well

- 1 I'm sorry I'm late. I got here as fast as I could.
- 2 It was a difficult question. I answered it as well as I could.
- 3 'How long can I stay with you?' 'You can stay as long as you like.'
- 4 I need the information quickly, so let me know as soon as it's possible.
- 5 I like to keep fit, so I go swimming as often as I can.
- 6 I didn't want to wake anybody, so I came in as quietly as I could.
- 7 You always say how tiring your job is, but I work just as hard as you.

Complete the sentences. Choose from:

as him is less me much soon than twice

- 1 I'll let you know as soon as I have any more news.
- 2 My friends arrived earlier than I expected.
- 3 I live in the same street as Katherine. We're neighbours.
- 4 He doesn't know much. I know more than him.
- 5 This morning there was more traffic than usual.
- 6 I don't watch TV as often as I used to.
- 7 Your bag is quite light. Mine is as heavy as yours.
- 8 We were born in the same year. I'm a little older than she is.
- 9 I was really surprised. Nobody was more surprised than me.