

CITY LIFE vs COUNTRY LIFE



Which of the adjectives from the list below do you associate with the city and which with the countryside? Fill the columns according to your opinion.

CITY LIFE	ADJECTIVES	COUNTRY LIFE
	Safe	Polluted
	Peaceful	Crowded
	Big	Stressful
	Exciting	Busy
	Relaxing	Noisy
	Healthy	Expensive
	Fast	Clean
	Lonely	Boring
	Dangerous	Helpful

When we compare and contrast two elements, it is quite useful to use appropriate comparative expressions, particularly adjectives which are the words we use to assign qualities to people, places, objects, events, and situations. This is a particular topic in the English language which has some rules and requires some good attention.

TOPIC 1 – COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES

RULE 1 - ONE SYLLABLE ADJECTIVES

Sample Adjectives	Rule and Examples
Short Tall Fast Clean Late Big Sad Thin	<p>When we compare two elements with an adjective that is made up of only one syllable, we must add the suffix "er" to the adjective as follows:</p> <p>Shorter / Taller / Faster / Cleaner / Later / Bigger* / Sadder* / Thinner*</p> <p>*Special Cases: When we have a monosyllabic word finishing with the combination: CONSONANT / VOWEL / CONSONANT (CVC) we duplicate the final consonant in the comparative form. As shown: Big/Bigger; Sad/Sadder; Thin/Thinner</p>
Sample Sentences	
<p>...er than <i>When you mention the two elements you are contrasting in a simple clause, it is very common to use this form:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Air in the countryside is <u>cleaner than</u> air in the city. - Living in the countryside is <u>safer than</u> living in the city. <p>...er <i>In different contexts, you don't have to necessarily use the form "than". Only the comparative adjective will do the trick:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bogotá is a big city, but there are other cities in Latin America which are even <u>bigger</u>. - Many people in the city believe that people in the countryside are <u>nicer</u>. 	

RULE 2 – ADJECTIVES FINISHING IN "Y"

Sample Adjectives	Rule and Examples
Happy Busy Noisy Trendy	<p>When we compare two elements with an adjective that finishes in letter "y" we must replace "y" into "i" and add the suffix "er" to the adjective as follows:</p> <p>Happier / Busier / Noisier / Trendier</p>
Sample Sentences	
<p>...er than - People in the city think that they are <u>busier than</u> people in the countryside.</p> <p>...er - People in the countryside don't worry about fashion, so people in the city are <u>trendier</u>.</p>	

RULE 3 – LONG ADJECTIVES (TWO OR MORE SYLLABLES)

Sample Adjectives	Rule and Examples
Boring Helpful Polluted Expensive	When we compare two elements with an adjective that is made up of two or more syllables, we must use the adverb “ more ” before the adjective as follows: more boring / more helpful / more polluted / more expensive /
Sample Sentences	
more ... than - Living in the city can be more boring than living in the countryside. more ... - Lifestyle in the countryside is cheap. In contrast, lifestyle in the city is clearly more expensive.	

RULE 4 – SPECIAL ADJECTIVES

Special Adjectives	Rule and Examples
Good Bad Far	These three adjectives have special comparative forms. They are: Good / Better; Bad / Worse; Far / Further or Farther
Sample Sentences	
better/worse/further than... - Food in the countryside is better than food in the city. - Traffic in the big cities is worse than traffic in the countryside roads. - Health services in the countryside are usually further than in the city. better/worse/further - I love living in the city, but I think living in the countryside is better for our health. - There is bad Internet connection the countryside; however, in some parts of the city, it is worse . - Houses in the city re next to each other, but in the countryside they are further .	

EXERCISE 1:

Complete the following sentences using a correct comparative form of the adjectives enlisted in the first part of the worksheet.

1. The air in the country is _____ but in the city it is _____.
2. City life is _____ because there are plenty of things you can do. This is why living in the country can be _____.
3. Cities are _____ than villages and _____ because more people live there.
4. People in the city may feel _____ because they don't have time for each other.
5. In the country there is less crime, so people feel _____. In the city life is _____.
6. The cost of living is _____ in the city.
7. There is a strong sense of community in the country and neighbours are usually _____.
8. There is less pollution in the country and so people have a _____ life.
9. It's quieter and _____ in the country. It is _____ in the city because of the traffic.
10. In the city there is more confusion and so living there can be _____. Life in the country is much _____ than in the city.
11. People seem to be _____ in the city because they are always working and running around.
12. Life in the city is _____ - in the country life moves a bit slower.



TOPIC 2 – COMPARING USING AS...AS

Another way to establish comparisons is by means of expressions such as “**as...as**”. Let’s see some cases:

EXPRESSING EQUALITY

Cali is **as big as** Medellín.

Living in the countryside is **as interesting as** living in the city.

Working in the city **can be as hard as** working in the countryside.

Countryside people **enjoy life as much as** people in the city.

People in the city **can have as many friends as** people in the city.

As you can see, in these sentences the verb is in affirmative form.

Between **as...as you can have either **adjectives** or **adverbial phrases.****

EXPRESSING INEQUALITY

Living in the city **isn't as peaceful as** living in the countryside.

Water in the city **doesn't taste as good as** pure water in the countryside.

People in the countryside **doesn't have as much stress as** people in the city.

Food in the countryside **doesn't contain as many preservatives as** food in the city.

As you can see, in these sentences the verb is in negative form.

Between **as...as** you can have either **adjectives** or **adverbial phrases**.

EXERCISE 2

Write 3 affirmative and 3 negative sentences using the form **as...as** comparing living in the city and living in the countryside.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

