24 Comparison: adjectives and adverbs

I can use comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs.

Comparative and superlative adjectives

We use the comparative adjective with **than** to compare two people or things.



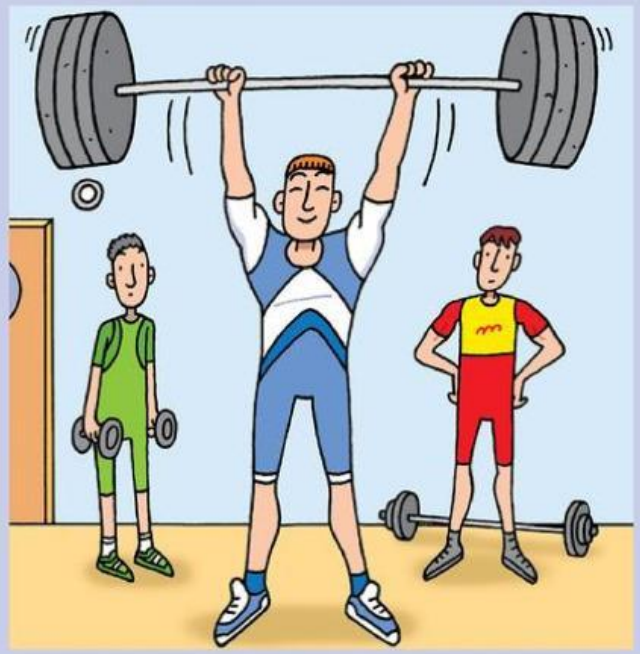
*Pete is **stronger** than Tim.*

We can use the comparative to compare two groups.
*Doctors are **richer than** nurses.*
*Paris is **more beautiful than** Manchester.*

With the superlative, we use **the** before the adjective.
*I've got three brothers. Mike is **the oldest**.*
*Yesterday was **the hottest** day of the year.*
*'The Simpsons' is **the most enjoyable** programme on TV.*

After the adjective, we use **in** before places or nouns for a group of people (e.g. *team*, *family*).

We use the superlative adjective with **the** when we compare three or more things.



*But Max is **the strongest**.*

*It's **the tallest** building **in** my town.*
*Amy is **the most intelligent** person **in** the class.*

We use **of** before other nouns.
*It was **the funniest film of** the year.*

We can also use superlatives with the phrase **I've ever …**
*This is **the most interesting** book **I've ever** read.*

See Reference page 175 for the spelling rules.

*** 1 Write the comparative forms of the adjectives.**

▶ cheap	cheaper	7 difficult	
1 old		8 hard	
2 hot		9 healthy	
3 easy		10 thin	
4 exciting		11 bad	
5 late		12 useful	
6 good			

*** 2 Write the superlative forms of the adjectives.**

▶ clean	the cleanest	7 new	
1 big		8 sad	
2 lucky		9 bad	
3 popular		10 special	
4 cold		11 fresh	
5 noisy		12 good	
6 boring			

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 **Match 1–10 with a–j.**

1 The burger is f
2 I think skiing is more ___
3 The computer is the most ___
4 I bought the ___
5 Is China the ___
6 Swimming is ___
7 It was the happiest day ___
8 The President is the most important person ___
9 Is America ___
10 My phone is more ___

a better for your health than playing rugby.
b cheapest T-shirt in the shop.
c in my country.
d modern than yours.
e more expensive than Britain?
f cheaper than the pizza.
g of her life.
h useful invention ever.
i biggest country in the world?
j dangerous than riding a horse.

4 **24.1 Listen and complete the table with ✓, ✓✓ or ✓✓✓.**

	Beth	Dora	Rosy
friendly	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓
good at sport			
intelligent			
shy			
popular			

5 **24.2 Complete the sentences with the comparative or superlative form of the adjective in brackets. Listen and check.**

▶ My room is tidier than my brother's. (tidy)
▶ Isabel has the tidiest desk in the office. (tidy)
1 I think this is _____ train in the world! (slow)
2 Ed looks _____ Oscar. (thin)
3 Football is _____ cricket. (exciting)
4 Football is _____ sport in the world. (popular)
5 This is _____ day of the year. (hot)
6 I think we'll win. That team is _____ ours. (bad)
7 This is _____ village in the whole country. (pretty)
8 Mrs Symons is _____ teacher in the school. (good)
9 Taxis are _____ buses. (expensive)
10 Biology is _____ of all my subjects at school. (interesting)

6 **Write the sentences.**

▶ Jamie – funny – Henry
Jamie is funnier than Henry.
▶ He – famous person – my town
He is the most famous person in my town.
1 Russia – big – Korea
2 Russia – big country – the world
3 A computer – useful – a phone
4 Eiffel Tower – interesting building – Paris
5 Your shoes – dirty – mine
6 Lucy – good musician – orchestra
7 Monday – bad day – the week
8 Health – important – money

7 **Work in pairs. Say an adjective from the box. Your partner uses it in a sentence about someone in his or her family.**

confident friendly funny good at sport intelligent old tall thin

Funny
My dad is the funniest person in my family.
Old
My brother is older than me.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Not as … as …/less … than

We use **not as … as …** to make negative comparisons.
*Egypt is**n't as big as** China. (= China is bigger than Egypt.)*
*Tom is**n't as tall as Jack**. (= Jack is taller than Tom.)*

We can also use **less … than.**
*Your room is **less tidy than** mine.*
*Playing sport is **less important than** studying.*

We can also make a negative superlative with **the least**.
*He was **the least helpful** assistant in the shop.*

8 **Look at the information about three computers. Then read the sentences and circle the correct options.**

	GX7	AP3	BB9
Price	£499	£479	£525
How old?	3 months	6 months	1 year
How heavy?	0.95 kg	1.06 kg	0.78 kg
How thin?	9 mm	10 mm	8 mm
How fast?	1.33 GHz	1.00 GHz	0.77 GHz
How good?	*****	**	***

▶ The **AP3 / BB9** isn't as expensive as the GX7.
1 The **GX7 / BB9** isn't as old as the AP3.
2 The **AP3 / BB9** isn't as heavy as the GX7.
3 The **AP3 / BB9** isn't as thin as the GX7.
4 The **GX7 / BB9** isn't as fast as the AP3.
5 The **AP3 / GX7** isn't as good as the BB9.
6 The **AP3 / BB9** isn't as cheap as the GX7.
7 The **GX7 / BB9** isn't as new as the AP3.
8 The **AP3 / BB9** isn't as light as the GX7.

9 GAME **Work in pairs. Choose a person in the picture, but don't tell your partner. Say two sentences using *not as … as …* and adjectives from the box. Can your partner guess the person?**

tall short young old thin fat happy sad

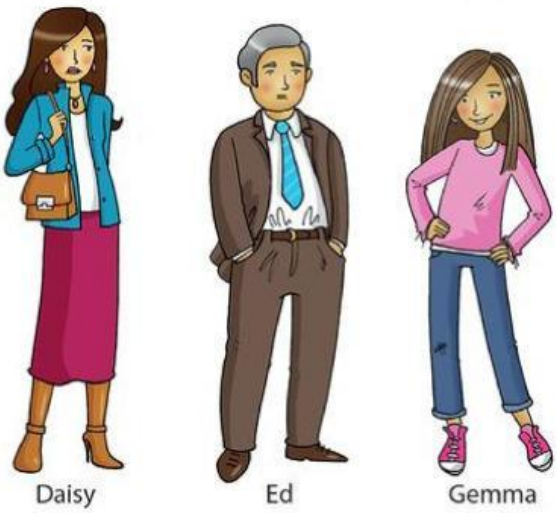
This person isn't as tall as Daisy.
Charlie isn't as happy as this person.

Is it Bella?



10 **24.3** **Look again at the people in exercise 9 and listen to the sentences. Write *Yes* if the sentence is correct, and *No* if it is not correct.**

▶ Yes
1 _____
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____



LIVEWORKSHEETS

11 **Rewrite the comparisons using *not as … as …* or *less … than*.**

▶ Angie is more popular than me.
I'm not as popular as Angie.
I'm less popular than Angie.

1 Jason is more handsome than Theo.

2 Supermarkets are more useful than cafés.

3 Tokyo is noisier than London.

4 I'm taller than my teacher.

5 The chair is more comfortable than the floor.

6 She's more beautiful than me.

7 Pasta is healthier than chips.

8 Your bag is more expensive than mine.

12 **Look at the example. Write eight sentences using *not as … as …* and *less … than* and the words in the table.**

basketball football skiing swimming	big boring dangerous difficult exciting expensive hot popular rich useful
dentists footballers musicians nurses	
the Arctic India Britain Egypt	

Swimming isn't as exciting as basketball.
Nurses aren't as rich as footballers.
The Arctic is less popular than Egypt.

Comparison of adverbs

We make the comparative and superlative of most adverbs by adding **more** and **the most** before the adverb.
*Polly did her homework **more quickly than** me.*
*Kate spoke **the most confidently**.*

Some short adverbs have a comparative form with **-er** and **-est**, like adjectives. For example: **early, fast, hard, late, long, loud.**
*Paul arrived **earlier than** me.*
*The journey took **longer than** normal.*
*Toby ran **the fastest**.*

There are some irregular adverbs:

well	better	the best
badly	worse	the worst
little	less	the least

We can also use **not as … as …** with adverbs.
*I **didn't** do **as well as** Jim in the exam.*
*The book **doesn't** explain it **as clearly as** our teacher.*

13 **24.4 Write the words in the correct order. Listen and check.**

▶ gets up/his brother/Henry/than/later
Henry gets up later than his brother.

1 swims/me/than/Emily/better

2 harder/her friends/works/than/Cathy

3 drive/carefully/You/more/should

4 more loudly/everyone else/Ryan/than/is talking

5 He/his parents/eats/than/healthily/more

6 than/my brother/less/earn/I

7 the bus/more slowly/this train/than/is going

8 you/please/more/speak/Could/clearly

LIVEWORKSHEETS

14 **Complete the sentences with the correct comparative or superlative form of the adverb in brackets.**

- She spoke *more quietly* than me. (quietly)
- I did *the best* in the whole school. (well)

1 We arrived _____ than everyone else. (late)
2 Jack didn't play as _____ as Tom. (well)
3 They've lived here _____ than us. (long)
4 Kim studies _____ in the whole class. (hard)
5 It's impossible to live _____. (cheaply)
6 The match doesn't start as _____ as usual. (early)
7 You should read the letter _____. (carefully)
8 Fred and Alex are lazy, but Pete works _____ of all. (little)
9 Eat _____, or you'll feel sick. (slowly)
10 No one in the band is very good but he definitely sings _____. (badly)

15 GAME **Student A mimes an action. Student B guesses the action. Then student A chooses an adverb and mimes the action and the adverb. Student B guesses the adverb.**

You're playing the guitar.

Yes.

Now you're playing it faster!

climb the stairs	angrily
eat some chips	badly
make coffee	carefully
play the guitar	fast
send a text message	slowly
sit down	strangely
walk	
write a letter	



16 **Correct the mistakes.**

- That was **the boringest** film I've ever seen.
  the most boring

1 Your computer is **faster of** mine.
_____
2 Beth is **the more wonderful** person I know.
_____
3 Vicky has got **more longer hair than** me.
_____
4 That was one of **the sadest moments of** my life.
_____
5 William isn't **as clever than** he thinks.
_____
6 Leo can run **more fastly than** anyone else.
_____
7 Who is **most popular person in** your class?
_____
8 Some footballers are **famouser than** musicians.
_____
9 The Taj Mahal is perhaps **the most beautiful building of** the world.
_____
10 You need to listen **more careful.**
_____
11 That is **the dirtier** car I've ever seen.
_____
12 This week's test **was more difficult that** I expected.
_____

Self-evaluation Rate your progress.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS