

30 Comparative adjectives (2)



Janie loves shopping. But she doesn't go to shops, she uses the Internet.
She thinks the service is better and the prices are cheaper.

1 Comparatives without *than*

We can use comparative adjectives without *than* when it is clear what or who we are talking about:

The first exam was easy but the second was more difficult. (more difficult than the first exam)
She thinks the service is better and the prices are cheaper. (better and cheaper than shops)

Don't take the car. It's quicker to go by train.

I'm tall but my brother's taller.

2 Irregular adjectives

Some comparative adjectives are irregular:

adjective	bad	good	far	well (= healthy)
comparative adjective	worse	better	further/farther	better

My exam results are worse than yours.

The Chinese restaurant is nice, but I think the food is better in the Italian one.

The flight to Seattle is longer because it's further.

Jenny is better than she was before the operation. (healthier)

3 more and less

The opposite of *more* is *less*. We can use *less* with adjectives with two or more syllables:

Gold is more expensive than silver. (= *Silver is less expensive than gold.*)

Books are less exciting than films.



We don't use *less* with adjectives with only one syllable (e.g. *old, tall, nice, young*):

✗ *My mother is less old than my father.*

✓ *My mother is younger than my father.*

We can also use *not as + adjective + as* (e.g. *not as old as*) (► Unit 32.1).



We don't use *more* or *less* with an adjective that is already a comparative adjective:

✗ *People in Argentina are more friendlier than people here.*

✓ *People in Argentina are friendlier than people here.*



We don't use *more* with irregular adjectives:

✗ *I think television is more good than radio.*

✓ *I think television is better than radio.*

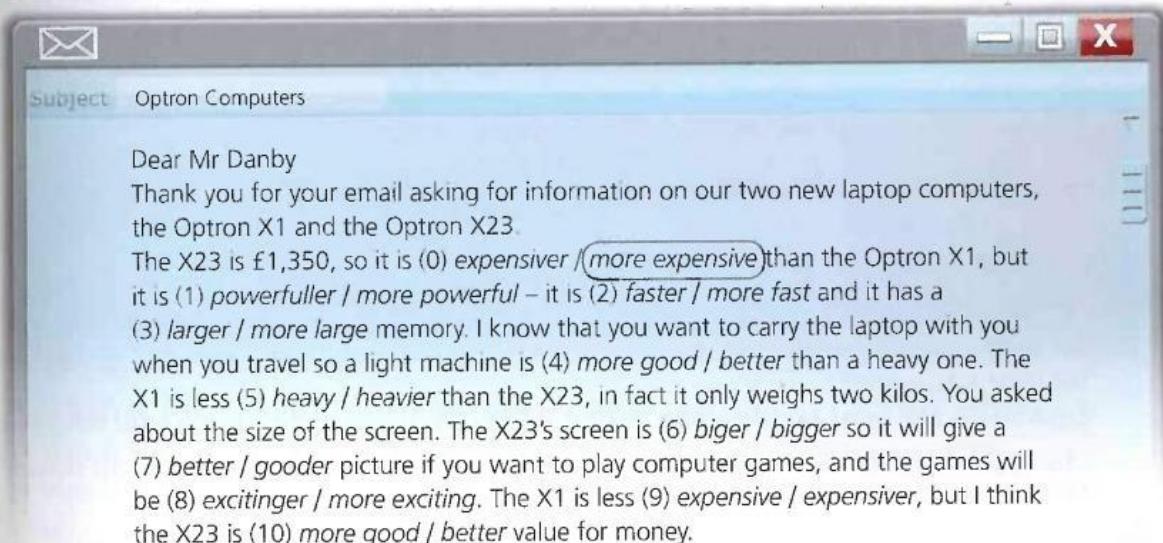
Practice

1 **GRAMMAR IN USE** Complete the conversation with the correct words and phrases from the box.

better easier further more expensive nicer worse

A Where shall we eat tonight? The Indian restaurant?
B No, I think the Chinese place is (0) *better*
A I'm not sure. It's (1) and I haven't got much money.
B Well, we can try the Italian place. It isn't expensive, and it's very nice.
A Yes, I know it's nice, but the Indian restaurant is (2)
B But it's not very close to us. It's (3) than the Italian restaurant – on the other side of town. What about the burger place near the library?
A Oh, no. That place is terrible. It's (4) than the others in every way!
B It's really difficult to decide! I know – let's stay at home and phone for a pizza.
A Great. That's (5) than going out. We can eat in front of the TV and watch a DVD.

2 **GRAMMAR IN USE** Choose the correct words in *italics* in the email.



3 Find the grammar mistakes in each sentence and correct them.

- 0 New York is bigger ~~of~~ Rome. *than*
- 1 The River Nile is more long than the River Thames.
.....
- 2 Meat is less healthier than vegetables.
.....
- 3 Which is more worse – cold weather or rainy weather?
.....
- 4 Leather shoes are more good than plastic shoes.
.....
- 5 It's more warmer in Spain than in England.
.....
- 6 Life in the countryside is less excitinger than life in the city.
.....
- 7 People say TV programmes are badder than they used to be.
.....
- 8 I think Sally is more nicer than her husband.
.....
- 9 Which is more far from London – Moscow or New York?
.....
- 10 Harry took some medicine so he feels weller now.
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