

LEARN

8.4 Comparisons with As ... As

	As	Adjective	As			As	Adverb	As	
My car is	as	big comfortable	as	your car,	I drive	as	well carefully	as	you do.

1. Use *as* + adjective/adverb + *as* to compare two people, places, or things that are the same or equal in some way.

Adjective: Your car is **as old as** mine.

Adverb: I can run a mile **as fast as** you can.

2. To complete a comparison with *as ... as*, you can use

- a noun (+ verb)
- a subject pronoun + verb or an auxiliary verb
- a possessive noun or possessive pronoun

a. I dance as well as **my brother (dances)**.

b. I dance as well as **he dances**.

I dance as well as **he does**.

c. My computer is as old as **Rita's**.

My computer is as old as **hers**.

3. In informal speaking, object pronouns are often used to complete comparisons with *as ... as*.

Formal: He's as tall as **I am**.

Informal: He's as tall as **me**.

4 Complete each sentence with *as ... as* and the adjective or adverb in parentheses.

- Magazine ads are as effective as (effective) newspaper ads.
- Mark plays the guitar _____ (well) Nancy does.
- Online reviews are _____ (useful) asking friends about products.
- I read online reviews _____ (carefully) he does.
- The coat was just _____ (warm) it looked.
- Your sofa is just _____ (comfortable) Diane's.
- My computer is _____ (fast) the newer models.
- He shops online _____ (frequently) I do.

5 Use the words to make comparisons with *as ... as*.

- Desktop computers / be / popular / laptops

Desktop computers are as popular as laptops (are).

- Microwave ovens / work / well / regular ovens

- Motorcycles / go / fast / cars

- This hotel room / be / big / my apartment

- 10** Look at the chart comparing three Internet movie services. Then complete each sentence with the words in parentheses. Use *less* and (*not*) *as . . . as*. For some sentences, more than one answer is possible.

	C-Movie	MyScreen	FAB
Membership fee	\$9.95	\$5.00	\$5.00
Monthly rate	\$7.95	\$8.50	\$9.95
New movies	every month	every two weeks	every week
Easy to use	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★
Customer service	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★

- FAB's membership fee is as cheap as (be / cheap) MyScreen's.
- Becoming a member of MyScreen is more expensive than (be / expensive) joining C-Movie.
- C-Movie's monthly rate is higher than (be / high) the others'.
- C-Movie adds new movies more frequently than (add new movies / frequently) FAB.
- Using FAB is more difficult than (be / difficult) using the others.
- On C-Movie, you can find movies more easily than (find movies / easily) on MyScreen. They are both pretty easy to use.
- MyScreen's customer service is better than (be / good) FAB's.
- C-Movie's customer service is less helpful than (be / helpful) the other two services.

11 APPLY.

- A** Use the chart below to compare two or three similar products or services you have used. For example, transportation services, restaurants, shopping websites, etc. Choose five categories to compare. Use the chart from exercise **10** as a model.

	1: _____	2: _____	3: _____

- B** In your notebook, write five sentences comparing the products or services from your chart in exercise **A**. Use *less* and (*not*) *as . . . as*. Use the sentences in exercise **10** as models.

The TRIMET bus is less expensive than the subway or a taxi. It's not as comfortable as a taxi. . .

- C** Work with a partner. Talk about how the products or services you chose compare with each other. Use *less* and (*not*) *as . . . as*. Does your partner agree with you?

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8.6 Superlative Adjectives and Adverbs

	Superlative Adjective	
The red car is	the nicest the most expensive	car in the parking lot.

	Superlative Adverb	
She runs	the fastest the most slowly	of all the players on the team.

1. Use a superlative adjective to compare three or more people, places, or things.	Ali is the tallest student in our class. Prague is the most beautiful city I've ever seen. What's the most interesting book you've ever read?
2. Use a superlative adverb to compare the action of three or more people or things.	Of all my friends, Alicia calls the most frequently . My red shoes fit the most comfortably of all my shoes.
3. Add <i>-est</i> to the end of most one-syllable adjectives or adverbs to form the superlative.* Use <i>the</i> before superlative adjectives. It is not as common before adverbs.	Adjective: I bought the longest couch in the store. Adverb: Steve works hardest of all the students.
4. Use <i>the most</i> before most adjectives that have two or more syllables and adverbs ending in <i>-ly</i> .	Maria is the most careful climber of the group. The Grand Canyon is the most amazing sight I've ever seen. Of all the girls, Brenda sings the most beautifully .
5. For some two-syllable adjectives and adverbs, either <i>-est</i> or <i>the most</i> can be used to form the superlative.	stupid → the stupidest / the most stupid cruel → the cruellest / the most cruel
6. Some superlatives are irregular.	good/well → the best bad/badly → the worst

*See page A3 for more information on spelling superlative adjectives and adverbs.

4 Complete the sentences with the superlative form of the adjective or adverb in parentheses.

- The biggest (big) piles of trash on Mount Everest are on the lower areas.
- Trash is one of _____ (bad) problems on Mount Everest now.
- Many climbers consider K2, a mountain between Pakistan and China, to be _____ (difficult) mountain to climb, not Mount Everest.
- Ted was _____ (experienced) climber on the expedition.
- Which climber is _____ (far) from the top?

Charts
8.1, 8.3–8.7

1 READ & WRITE.

- A** Read the information about the Greendex survey, and look at the chart. Then complete each sentence according to the information in the chart. Use the comparative or superlative form of the adjective or adverb in parentheses. For some sentences, more than one answer is possible.



The Greendex is a survey of 1000 consumers in several countries. It asks consumers how they spend their money. Each consumer receives a score. High scores indicate “green,” or environmentally friendly, attitudes. Low scores indicate environmentally unfriendly attitudes.

Greendex: Rankings

	Overall	Housing	Transportation	Food	Goods
Americans	44.7	31.5	54.9	57.0	44.2
Brazilians	55.5	48.9	67.1	57.5	53.8
British	49.4	35.9	62.7	62.2	47.1
Canadians	47.9	35.1	57.8	60.9	45.7
Chinese	57.8	48.2	69.0	63.7	56.8
Germans	51.5	40.3	61.9	61.9	47.1
Indians	58.9	51.4	67.3	71.1	57.3
Japanese	48.5	35.3	65.9	54.7	52.7
Mexicans	53.9	48.0	62.2	53.6	54.5
Russians	53.1	44.1	66.4	60.4	47.9

Transportation

- The Chinese make the greenest (green) choices.
- Americans are _____ (green) consumers.
- British consumers make _____ (green) choices than Canadian consumers.
- Mexican consumers are _____ (green) Japanese consumers.

Food

- The British are _____ (concerned) the Chinese.
- Indians are _____ (concerned) consumers.
- Russians are _____ (concerned) Brazilians.
- Americans are _____ (concerned) Canadians.