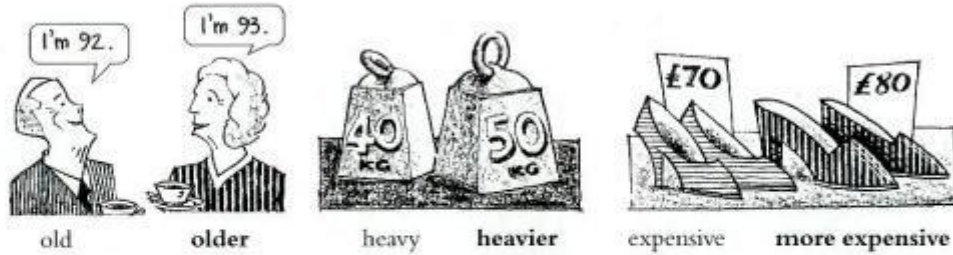


A



Older / heavier / more expensive are comparative forms.
The comparative is **-er** (older) or **more ...** (more expensive).

B

-er (older/heavier etc.)

Short words (1 syllable) → **-er**:

old → older	slow → slower	cheap → cheaper
nice → nicer	late → later	big → bigger

Spelling (⇒ Appendix 5): big → bigger hot → hotter thin → thinner

Words ending in **-y** → **-ier**:

easy → easier	heavy → heavier	early → earlier
---------------	-----------------	-----------------

- Rome is **old** but Athens is **older**. (*not* 'more old')
- Is it **cheaper** to go by car or by train? (*not* 'more cheap')
- Helen wants a **bigger** car.
- This coat is OK but I think the other one is **nicer**.
- Don't write a letter. It's **easier** to phone. (*not* 'more easy')

far → **further**:

- 'How far is it to the station? A mile?' 'No, it's **further**. About two miles.'

C

more ...

Long words (2/3/4 syllables) → **more ...**:

careful → more careful	polite → more polite
expensive → more expensive	interesting → more interesting

- You must be **more** careful.
- I don't like my job. I want to do something **more** interesting.
- Is it **more** expensive to go by car or by train?

D



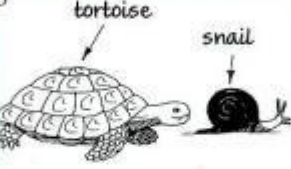



good/well → **better** **bad** → **worse**

- The weather wasn't very **good** yesterday but it's **better** today.
- 'Do you feel **better** today?' 'No, I feel **worse**.'
- Which is **worse** – a headache or a toothache?

EXERCISES

UNIT
86

86.1 Look at the pictures and write the comparative (older / more interesting etc.).

<p>1</p>  <p>heavy heavier</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>big</p>	<p>3</p>  <p>tortoise snail</p> <p>slow</p>
<p>4</p>  <p>expensive</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>high</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>dangerous</p>

86.2 Write the comparative.

- | | |
|--------------------|------------|
| 1 old <u>older</u> | 6 good |
| 2 strong | 7 large |
| 3 happy | 8 serious |
| 4 modern | 9 pretty |
| 5 important | 10 crowded |

86.3 Write the opposite.

- | | |
|------------------------|----------|
| 1 younger <u>older</u> | 4 better |
| 2 colder | 5 nearer |
| 3 cheaper | 6 easier |

86.4 Complete the sentences. Use a comparative.

- Helen's car isn't very big. She wants a bigger one.
- My job isn't very interesting. I want to do something more interesting.
- You're not very tall. Your brother is
- David doesn't work very hard. I work
- My chair isn't very comfortable. Yours is
- Your plan isn't very good. My plan is
- These flowers aren't very nice. The blue ones are
- My bag isn't very heavy. Your bag is
- I'm not very interested in art. I'm in history.
- It isn't very warm today. It was yesterday.
- These tomatoes don't taste very good. The other ones tasted
- Britain isn't very big. France is
- London isn't very beautiful. Paris is
- This knife isn't very sharp. Have you got a one?
- People today aren't very polite. In the past they were