

### 3 GRAMMAR & PRONUNCIATION

comparative adjectives and adverbs, as...as; /ə/

a Look at the **highlighted** words in the sentences. Are they adjectives or adverbs?

- 1 My husband's life is very **busy**, and he's sometimes **stressed**.
- 2 My sister walks and talks very **quickly**.
- 3 Some young people eat a lot of **fast** food.
- 4 If things don't happen as **fast** as I want them to, I get **impatient**.
- 5 Some people don't think living faster is a **bad** thing.
- 6 I think in general I live **well**.

b **Circle** the correct form.

- 1 Life is **faster** / **more fast** than before.
- 2 Traffic in cities is **more bad** / **worse** than it was.
- 3 Everybody is **busyer** / **busier** than they were five years ago.
- 4 We are **more stressed** / **stresseder** than our grandparents were.
- 5 We do everything **more quickly** / **quicklier**.
- 6 People aren't **as patient as** / **as patient** than they were before.

#### 5A comparatives

##### adjectives

1 I'm **busier than** I was five years ago.

5.4

People are **more impatient** today **than** in the past.

2 I'm **less relaxed** this year **than** I was last year.

3 The service in this restaurant isn't **as good as** it was.

- To compare two people, places, or things we use:

- 1 comparative adjectives.
- 2 less + adjective.
- 3 (not) as + adjective + as.

## comparative adjectives

short	shorter	one syllable: + -er
hot	hotter	one vowel + one consonant: double final consonant
stressed	more stressed	one syllable adjectives ending in -ed: more + adjective
busy	busier	two syllable adjectives ending in consonant + y: y + -ier
relaxed	more relaxed	two or more syllables: more + adjective
good	better	irregular
bad	worse	irregular
far	further	irregular (also farther)

## adverbs

- 1 People walk **more quickly** than in the past.
- 2 My brother speaks French, but **less fluently** than me.
- 3 She doesn't drive **as fast as** her brother.



- To compare two actions we use:
  - 1 comparative adverbs.
  - 2 less + adverb.
  - 3 (not) as + adverb + as.

## comparative adverbs

quickly	more quickly	adverbs ending in -ly: more + adverb
fast	faster	irregular
hard	harder	irregular
well	better	irregular
badly	worse	irregular



### Comparatives with pronouns

After comparative + than or as...as we use an object pronoun (me, her, etc.) or a subject pronoun + auxiliary verb, e.g.

*My brother's taller than me. My brother's taller than I am.*

*He's not as intelligent as her. He's not as intelligent as she is.*

## 5A

a Write sentences with a comparative adjective or adverb + than.

New York is more expensive than Miami. (expensive)

- 1 Modern computers are much \_\_\_\_\_ the early ones. (fast)
- 2 My sister is \_\_\_\_\_ me. (short)
- 3 This exercise is \_\_\_\_\_ the last one. (easy)
- 4 Newcastle is \_\_\_\_\_ from London  
Leeds. (far)
- 5 I thought the third Bridget Jones film was  
\_\_\_\_\_ the first two. (bad)
- 6 Manchester United played \_\_\_\_\_ Arsenal. (good)
- 7 I'm \_\_\_\_\_ this year \_\_\_\_\_ I was last year. (stressed)
- 8 I'm working \_\_\_\_\_ this year  
\_\_\_\_\_ last year. (hard)
- 9 The new airport is \_\_\_\_\_ the old one. (big)
- 10 I'm not lazy – I just work \_\_\_\_\_ you!  
(slowly)

b Rewrite the sentences so they mean the same. Use as...as.

Luke is stronger than Peter.

Peter isn't as strong as Luke.



- 1 Adam is shorter than Jerry.  
Jerry isn't \_\_\_\_\_ Adam.
- 2 Your bag is nicer than mine.  
My bag isn't \_\_\_\_\_ yours.
- 3 Tokyo is bigger than London.  
London isn't \_\_\_\_\_ Tokyo.
- 4 Tennis is more popular than cricket.  
Cricket isn't \_\_\_\_\_ tennis.
- 5 Children learn languages faster than adults.  
Adults don't \_\_\_\_\_ children.
- 6 I work harder than you.  
You don't \_\_\_\_\_ me.
- 7 England played better than France.  
France didn't \_\_\_\_\_ England.