

3A

comparatives and superlatives: adjectives and adverbs

comparing two people, places, things, etc.

- 1 My sister is a bit **taller than** me. (2) 11))
London is **more expensive than** Edinburgh.
This test is **less difficult than** the last one.
Olive oil is **better for you than** butter.
- 2 The new sofa isn't as **comfortable as** the old one.
I don't have as **many books as** I used to.

- 1 We use comparative **adjectives** to compare two people, places, things, etc.
- Regular comparative adjectives: spelling rules
old > older big > bigger easy > easier
modern > more modern difficult > more difficult
 - Irregular comparative adjectives:
good > better bad > worse far > further
 - One-syllable adjectives ending in *-ed*:
bored > more bored stressed > more stressed
tired > more tired
- 2 We can also use (not) *as* + adjective + *as* to make comparisons.

Object pronouns (*me, him, etc.*) after *than* and *as*

After *than* or *as* we can use an object pronoun (*me, him, her, etc.*) or a subject pronoun (*I, he, she, etc.*) + auxiliary verb.

She's taller than me. OR *She's taller than I am.*
NOT *She's taller than I.*

They're not as busy as us. OR *They're not as busy as we are.*
NOT *They're not as busy as we.*

the same as

We use *the same as* to say that two people, places, things, etc. are identical.

Her dress is the same as mine.

comparing two actions

- 1 My father drives **faster than** me. (2) 12))
You walk **more quickly than** I do.
Liverpool played worse today **than** last week.
- 2 Max doesn't speak English **as well as** his wife does.
I don't earn **as much as** my boss.

1 We use comparative **adverbs** to compare two actions.

- Regular comparative adverbs: spelling rules
fast > faster slowly > more slowly carefully > more carefully
- Irregular comparatives:
well > better badly > worse

2 We can also use (not) *as* + adverb + *as* to make comparisons.

superlatives

- Kevin is **the tallest** player in the team. (2) 13))
Oslo is **the most expensive** capital city in Europe.
The small bag is **the least expensive**.
Lucy is **the best student** in the class.
Who dresses **the most stylishly** in your family?
That's **the worst** we've ever played.

- We use superlative **adjectives** and **adverbs** to compare people, things, or actions with all of their group.
- Form superlatives like comparatives, but use *-est* instead of *-er* and *most / least* instead of *more / less*.
- We normally use **the** before superlatives, but you can also use possessive adjectives, e.g. **my best friend**, **their most famous song**.
- We often use a superlative with present perfect + *ever*, e.g. *It's the best book I've ever read.*

in after superlatives

Use *in* (NOT *of*) before places after a superlative.
It's the longest bridge in the world. NOT *of the world*
It's the best beach in England. NOT *of England*

a Complete with the comparative or superlative of the **bold** word (and *than* if necessary).

What's **the fastest** way to get across London? **fast**

- I think skiing is _____ horse-riding. **easy**
- A motorbike is _____ a scooter. **powerful**
- I think that travelling by train is _____ form of transport. **relaxing**
- You walk _____ I do. **slowly**
- _____ time to travel is on holiday weekends. **bad**
- _____ I've ever driven is from London to Edinburgh. **far**
- The London Underground is _____ the subway in New York. **old**
- This is _____ coach I've ever been on. **hot**
- Of all my family, my mum is _____ driver. **good**

b Complete with one word.

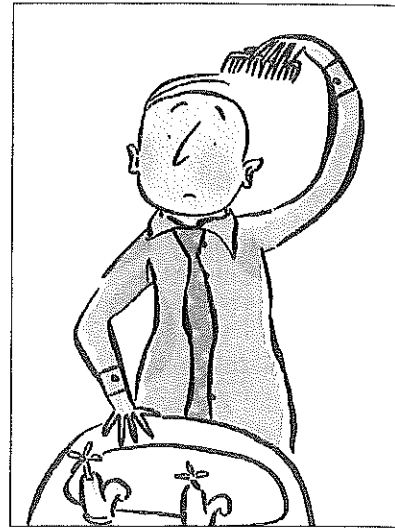
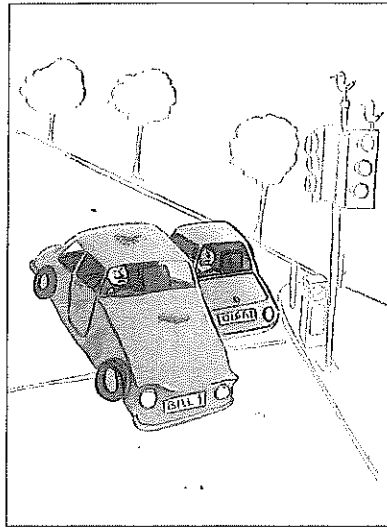
Going by motorboat is **more** exciting than travelling by ferry.

- A coach isn't as comfortable _____ a train.
- It's _____ most expensive car we've ever bought.
- The traffic was worse _____ we expected.
- This is the longest journey I've _____ been on.
- He gets home late, but his wife arrives later than _____.
- The _____ interesting place I've ever visited is Venice.
- I leave home at the same time _____ my brother.
- He drives _____ carefully than his girlfriend – he's never had an accident.
- We don't go abroad _____ often as we used to.
- What's the longest motorway _____ the UK?

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3A GRAMMAR comparatives and superlatives

a Tick (✓) the sentences that are right and correct the wrong ones. Write the answers in the column on the right.



- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 Cycling to work is more quickly than walking. | _____ <i>quicker</i> _____ |
| 2 Olga drives more carefully than Bill. | _____ ✓ _____ |
| 3 My dad has least hair now than he had five years ago. | _____ |
| 4 Now I've tried them on, these shoes are more comfortable than I thought they were going to be. | _____ |
| 5 In this photo you look more young than your sister. | _____ |
| 6 Taxis are much more expensive than buses or the Underground. | _____ |
| 7 Anne's not as tall as Susie, but she's thinner. | _____ |
| 8 My phone is moderner than yours. It's got a better camera. | _____ |
| 9 I love riding my scooter, it's much more better than driving a car. | _____ |
| 10 Can you say that again more slowly , please? I didn't understand a word! | _____ |
| 11 It's the most beautiful beach I've never been to. The sea looks amazing. | _____ |
| 12 Sean's the worse actor in the group, but he's the best singer. | _____ |
| 13 What's the nicest thing anyone's ever said to you? | _____ |
| 14 Everyone thinks their mum's cooking is the best of the world . | _____ |
| 15 Which sofa looks the more nice do you think? The blue one or the red one? | _____ |
| 16 I think we should take this case. It's the biggest one that we have. | _____ |
| 17 It's usually hoter here in June than it is in May. | _____ |
| 18 Did you go to the same school than your brother? | _____ |
| 19 That restaurant over there is fantastic. It's cheap and you can eat as many food as you like. | _____ |
| 20 I read a lot faster than my brother. I've finished the book, and he's still on page 30. | _____ |

activation

b Cover the column on the right and look at the sentences. Read the correct sentences aloud.