

## 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**

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

- b** Complete with one word.

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

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