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# **Comparative and** superlative

We're faster. We're stronger. We're fitter. We're the best!

UNIT

## Comparative

We use the comparative form to compare two people, animals or things. We often use the word *than* after the comparative form.

#### He's taller than me.

The toy dinosaur is more expensive than the toy bear.

To make the comparative form of adjectives with one syllable, we add the ending -er.

tall tall**er** 

When the adjective ends in -e, we just add -r. later late -

When the adjective ends in a vowel and a consonant, we double the last consonant and add -er.

fat  $\rightarrow$ fa**tter** 

When an adjective ends in -y, we take off the -y and add -ier.

early earlier Sometimes we use the word *more* with two-syllable adjectives to make the comparative form.

famous more famous

Some two-syllable adjectives have two comparative forms.

| simple | <b>→</b> | simpl <b>er</b> /r |
|--------|----------|--------------------|
| clever | <b>→</b> | clever <b>er</b> / |
| polite | <b>→</b> | polit <b>er/m</b>  |

more simple more clever

nore polite

We use the word more to make the comparative form of adjectives with three or more syllables.

> more confusing **→**

Some adjectives are irregular and do not follow these rules.

| good | <b>→</b> | better |
|------|----------|--------|
| bad  | <b>→</b> | worse  |

confusing

### **1** Complete the sentences with the comparative form.

- 1 The ship is <u>bigger</u> (big) than the boat.
- 2 Their children are \_\_\_\_\_ (polite) than other children.
- 3 The flowers \_\_\_\_\_\_ (beautiful) than the plants.
- 4 The football fans were \_\_\_\_\_ (noisy) than the tennis fans.
- 5 Spain is \_\_\_\_\_ (warm) than the UK.
- 6 The baby's teddy bear is \_\_\_\_\_ (fat) than hers.
- 7 A motorbike is \_\_\_\_\_ (dangerous) than a car.
- 8 This bag is \_\_\_\_\_ (heavy) than that one.

#### Think about it!



We do not use *more* with adjective + -*er I'm more shorter than my brother.* 

## Superlative

We use the superlative form to compare more than two people, animals or things. We often use a phrase beginning with *in* or *of* to continue the sentence.

She's **the most intelligent** girl **in** the school!

She's the tallest of all her sisters.

To make the superlative form of adjectives with one syllable, we add the ending *-est*. We use the word *the* before the adjective in its superlative form.

tall **→** the tallest

When the adjective ends in *-e*, we just add *-st*.

late 
→ the latest

When the adjective ends in a vowel and a consonant, we double the last consonant and add *-est*.

fit **→ the** fi**ttest** 

When an adjective ends in -*y*, we take off the -*y* and add -*iest*.

happy 

the happiest

Sometimes we use *the most* with a two-syllable adjective to make the superlative form.

famous 🔶 the most famous

Some two-syllable adjectives have two superlative forms.

- simple 

  the simplest/the most simple
- clever 

  the cleverest/the most clever
- polite *→ the* polite*st*/*the most polite*

We use the word *most* to make the superlative form of adjectives with three or more syllables.

confusing *→* the most confusing

Some adjectives are irregular and do not follow these rules.

good → the best bad → the worst

#### Notes

The words *much*, *many*, *a lot/lots* (*of*), *a little* and *a few* also have comparative and superlative forms.

| much       | <b>→</b> | more  | <b>→</b> | the most   |
|------------|----------|-------|----------|------------|
| many       | <b>→</b> | more  | <b>→</b> | the most   |
| a lot (of) | <b>→</b> | more  | <b>→</b> | the most   |
| lots (of)  | <b>→</b> | more  | <b>→</b> | the most   |
| a little   | <b>→</b> | less  | <b>→</b> | the least  |
| a few      | <b>→</b> | fewer | <b>→</b> | the fewest |
|            |          |       |          |            |

#### **2** Complete the sentences with the superlative form.

- 1 She is <u>the nicest</u> (nice) person I know.
- 2 Tuesday is \_\_\_\_\_ (bad) day of the week for me.
- 3 Her project was \_\_\_\_\_\_ (interesting) one in the class.
  - At our restaurant you can eat \_\_\_\_\_ (tasty) food in town!
- 5 Those exercises are \_\_\_\_\_ (difficult) of all.
- 6 She's \_\_\_\_\_ (old) daughter in the family.
- 7 Today is \_\_\_\_\_ (hot) day of the year.
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ (exciting) ride at the funfair is the roller coaster.

### *As* ... *as*

4

We can also use (*not*) as ... as to compare two people, animals or things.

We use *as* ... *as* when the two people, animals or things are the same. *He is as tall as his father.* 

We use *not as* ... *as* when they are different. *This book is***n't as good as** *that book.* 

# **3** Rewrite the sentences using *as* ... *as* or *not as* ... *as* and the word in bold.

1 This mountain is 902 metres. That mountain is 902 metres. **high** 

## This mountain is

<u>as high as</u> that mountain.

- Aunt Bella is 45 years old. Aunt Serena is
   44 years old. young
   Aunt Bella is \_\_\_\_\_\_
   Aunt Serena.
- The elephant weighs 3,000 kilograms. The giraffe weighs 1,200 kilograms. heavy
   The giraffe is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   the elephant.
- 5 David scored nine points in the competition. Nancy scored nine points in the competition. good Nancy's score was

David's.

6 Nikos can lift 48 kilograms. Yuri can lift
 55 kilograms. strong
 Nikos is \_\_\_\_\_\_ Yuri.

#### 4 Write the words in the correct order.

1 at tennis / Tony / than / brother / his / is / better

Tony is better than his brother

at tennis.

- 2 more / learning / important / than / is / studying
- 3 the / is / player / the / she / best / team / in
- 4 is / this / as / ours / as / flat / big
- 5 exercise / than / is / the / easier / others / this
- 6 in / popular / she / the US / the / actor / is / most

# **5** Complete the sentences with one word in each gap.

- 1 She's more interested in science <u>than</u> her sister.
- 2 The maths questions aren't \_\_\_\_\_\_ difficult as you think.
- 3 This is \_\_\_\_\_ best day of my life!
- 4 The Lord of the Rings is the \_\_\_\_\_\_ exciting book in the world!
- 5 He is \_\_\_\_\_ as friendly as his brother.
- 6 He's the most famous film star \_\_\_\_\_\_ the world.

# 6 Complete the text with the comparative or superlative form.

| <sup>1</sup> <u>older</u><br>he goes to the same<br><sup>2</sup> | cown called Tomas. He's<br>(old) than I am, but<br>e school. His house is<br>(big) than ours, but his garden<br>(small).                                     |
|--|--|
| and he's also <sup>5</sup><br>jokes and he makes<br>6            | (clever) boy in school<br>(funny)! He loves<br>everyone laugh. His mum makes<br>(good) cakes and Tomas is<br>(hungry) than anybody else at<br>a lot of cake! |
| swimming, but I run<br>he does. Tomas has                        | (good) than me at<br>9 (fast) than<br>got lots of friends because he's<br>(popular)  |

#### **Pairwork**

Work in pairs. Look at the three photos of holiday places and compare them with your partner. Use the words below.

- beautiful
- boring
- cheap
- cold
- exciting
- fewhot

expensive

- many
- ting



#### Writing

Find three pictures of different places, people or animals and compare them. Write a short paragraph. Qc

## **1** Complete the table.

| Adjective   | Comparative | Superlative |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| bad         | worse       | the worst   |
| big         |             |             |
| comfortable |             |             |
| difficult   |             |             |
| easy        |             |             |
| good        |             |             |
| heavy       |             |             |
| hot         |             |             |
| intelligent |             |             |
| interesting |             |             |
| light       |             |             |
| short       |             |             |
| small       |             |             |
| tall        |             |             |
| young       |             |             |

## **2** Complete the sentences with *be going to* and the verb in brackets.

| 1 | I am going to have | (have) a shower.                        |
|---|--------------------|---|
| 2 | They               | (not buy) a new flat.                   |
| 3 | We                 | (not eat) at a restaurant this evening. |
| 4 | lt                 | (be) sunny tomorrow.                    |
| 5 | We                 | (win) the match tomorrow!               |
| 6 | 1                  | (not study) for my exams tonight.       |
| 7 | Не                 | (not wear) his new jeans.               |
| 8 | She                | (meet) her friends next week.           |



| 3 | Complete the questions with be going a                                 | <i>to</i> .The | en answer the questions.       |
|---|--|----------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Are you going to walk<br>(you / walk) to the bus stop? ✓<br>Yes, I am. | 5              | (it / rain) all day? X         |
| 2 | the piano this afternoon? (she / practise) 🗴                           | 6              | (I / see) you soon? 🗸          |
| 3 | (they / call) us tomorrow? 🗸   | 7              | (we / meet) at the station? 🗸  |
| 4 |  | 8              |                                |
|   | (he / work) this evening? X  |                | (he / win) the race? 🗙         |
| 4 | Complete the sentences with the future                                 | simp           | le.                            |
| 1 | I (be) very happy to see yo  | u.             |                                |
| 2 | She (not be) at the same set   | chool r        | next year.                     |
| 3 | We (cook) for you today.   |                |                                |
| 4 | They (do) it again.  |                |                                |
| 5 | I (not invite) her for dinner  |                |                                |
| 6 | I (open) the door for you!   |                |                                |
| 7 | They (bring) the presents when they visit us.                          | with th        | em                             |
| 8 | We (not arrive) late for lun   | ch.            |                                |
| 5 | Complete the questions with the future                                 | simpl          | le. Then answer the questions. |
| 1 | Will you try (you / try) harde   | er at sc       | hool next year? 🗸              |
|   | Yes, I will.   |                |                                |
| 2 | (he / get) back e  | arly? 🗴        | ¢                              |
| 3 | (she / feel) bette   | er tomo        | orrow? 🗸                       |
| 4 | (you / buy) me s   | someth         | ning from the shop? 🗸          |
| 5 | (they / be) on th  | ie bus?        | <b>×</b>                       |
| 6 | (he / have) time   | to hel         | p us? 🗴                        |
| 7 | (you / write) soo  | on? 🗸          |                                |
| 8 | (they / be) tired  | after tl       | heir trip? 🗸                   |

#### **6** Circle the correct answer.

- 1 Who *closed* / *did close* the window?
- 2 Who *did you write / you wrote* to?
- 3 What *did he see / he saw*?
- 4 What *smells / does smell* so nice?

#### **7** Complete the table.

- 5 Which bike you like / do you like best?
- 6 Which jacket *costs / does cost* more?
- 7 Where *he went / did he go*?
- 8 Why are you / you are sad?

| Verb  | Past simple | Past participle |
|-------|-------------|-----------------|
| buy   | bought      | bought          |
| catch | caught      |                 |
| draw  | drew        |                 |
| drink | drank       |                 |
| eat   | ate         |                 |
| go    | went        |                 |
| know  | knew        |                 |
| make  | made        |                 |
| sing  | sang        |                 |
| sit   | sat         |                 |
| speak | spoke       |                 |
| spend | spent       |                 |
| swim  | swam        |                 |
| take  | took        |                 |
| think | thought     |                 |

#### 8 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the present perfect simple.

- 1 I have lost (lose) my keys again!
- 2 You \_\_\_\_\_ (run) ten kilometres today!
- 3 I \_\_\_\_\_ (not buy) any food from the supermarket.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a great time! 4 We\_\_\_\_
- 5 She \_\_\_\_\_ (not see) her brother recently.
- (write) an email to their cousins. 6 They \_\_\_\_
- 7 I \_\_\_\_\_\_ (do) all my jobs for today!
  8 They \_\_\_\_\_\_ (swim) in the lake.

9 Write sentences and questions with the present perfect simple.

- 1 you / not clean / your room / yet You haven't cleaned your room yet.
- 2 my parents / visit / a lot of places
- 3 we / already finish /our breakfast
- 4 I / not live / here / for long
- 5 your daughter / always be / good at sports / ?
- 6 they / ask / about the holiday / ?



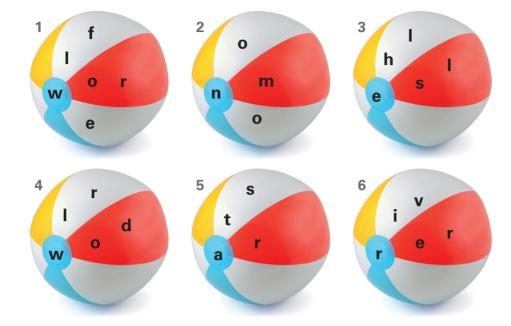
#### **10** Complete the questions with the present perfect simple. Then answer the questions.

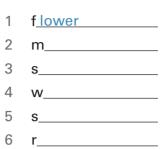
- 1 <u>Have you visited</u> (you / visit) Argentina? **X** <u>No, I haven't.</u>
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ (she / find) her keys? ✓
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ (he / buy) a new motorbike? X
- 4 Where is Amu? \_\_\_\_\_\_ (she / go) to her friend's house? ✔
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_\_ (you / see)
  6 \_\_\_\_\_\_ (he / arrive)
  6 \_\_\_\_\_\_ (he / arrive)
  7 \_\_\_\_\_\_ (you / sell)
  7 \_\_\_\_\_\_ (you / sell)
  8 \_\_\_\_\_\_ (they / talk)
  about the problem? ×

#### **11** Circle the correct answer.

- 1 They didn't *bought/buy* any nice clothes.
- 2 Have you meet / met his wife?
- 3 They *haven't / didn't* clean the house yesterday.
- 4 Does he *teach / taught* at your school?
- 5 She *have / has* driven for nearly five hours today!
- 6 She came / come to the party last night.
- 7 Have you *flew / flown* in a helicopter?
- 8 | broke / broken two glasses last week.







#### **1** Find and complete the words.

#### **2** Read Marco's postcard. Answer the questions.

#### Hi Tom!

I'm on holiday at my friend's house in the mountains. The place where we're staying is very nice, but it's very quiet. I can't sleep at night because there aren't any noisy cars or buses!

We're having a great time! Every day, we go for a walk in a forest near a river. There are lots of animals and plants there. We walk near the river, but we don't go swimming. The water is very cold! We usually take some bread and cheese with us for lunch. In the evenings, we eat at home or we ride our bikes to a village where there's a café. We usually eat chicken and vegetables or burgers and salad. Yummy!

At the moment, I'm writing my postcards here in my bedroom. I'm going to go to bed soon because I'm tired.

See you soon!

Marco



Tom Wong

42 Hall Street

Hebdon

holiday with?

Who is Marco on

1

- 2 What can't Marco do at night?
- 3 What is near the river?
- 4 Why doesn't Marco go swimming?
- 5 When does Marco go to the village?
- 6 Why is Marco going to go to bed?

#### **3** Read again. In which paragraph does Marco talk about

- 1 what he's doing now?
- 2 where he's staying?
- 3 what he does in the evenings? \_\_\_\_

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**4** Complete Marco's writing plan.

| Greeting:    | Hi!                            |                                 |
|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Paragraph 1: | say who I'm with, <sup>1</sup> | , say what the place is like    |
| Paragraph 2: | say what we do in the morning  | gs, say what we have for lunch, |
|              | 2                              |                                 |
| Paragraph 3: | 3                              | , say what I'm going to do soon |
| Ending:      | See you soon!                  |                                 |
| Sign off:    | Marco                          |                                 |

postcard with the words from the box.

and (x2) because (x2) but

#### Hi Dasha!

I'm on holiday with my best friend in Italy. The village where we're staying is very beautiful, 1 \_\_\_\_\_\_ it's very small. We can't go shopping 2 \_\_\_\_\_\_ there aren't any shops, but there's a fantastic market every weekend.

We're having a great time! Every day, we wake up early and we go for a walk on a beach near our house. There are lots of shells <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_\_ rocks there. We go fishing <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_\_ we also go swimming every day. We usually take sandwiches with us for lunch. In the evenings, we eat at the restaurant in the village <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_\_ we cook at home. We often cook fish from the river with vegetables from the garden. Yummy!

At the moment, I'm writing my postcards outside. I'm watching the moon and the stars. I'm going to go to bed soon <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it's late.

See you soon!

Viri

Now it's your turn!

**6** Use Marco's writing plan to make notes for your postcard to a friend below.

| My writing pl | an notes |
|---------------|----------|
| Greeting:     |          |
| Paragraph 1:  |          |
| Paragraph 2:  |          |
| Paragraph 3:  |          |
| Ending:       |          |
| Sign off:     |          |
|               |          |

#### Now use your writing plan notes to write a postcard to a friend about your holiday. Write in your notebook.

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Writing 9

or