

# UNIT 3

## Adjectives - Adverbs - Comparisons

### Adjectives



It's a **cold** day.  
The people are skiing on the **crisp white** snow.



Life can be very **enjoyable** for **retired** people.  
They have a lot of **spare** time and can take up **interesting** hobbies.

- ◆ **Adjectives** describe nouns. They have the same form in the singular and plural. They go before nouns (e.g. a **small** house) but after the verbs *be*, *look*, *smell*, *sound*, *feel*, *taste*, *seem*, *appear*, *become*, *get*, *stay*, etc. (e.g. She **is beautiful**. They **seem unhappy**.)
- ◆ There are **opinion adjectives** and **fact adjectives**. Opinion adjectives such as *boring*, *exciting*, etc. show what a person thinks of somebody or something. Fact adjectives such as *tall*, *thin*, *new*, etc. give us factual information about age, size, colour, origin, material, etc.
- ◆ There are also compound adjectives which are formed with: a) **present participles** e.g. a **never-ending** journey, b) **past participles** e.g. a **broken-down** washing machine, c) **cardinal numbers + nouns** e.g. a **three-hour** delay (NOT: a three hours delay),

d) **well**, **badly** + **past participle**

e.g. **well-behaved** children, **badly-made** furniture

- ◆ We can also use nouns as adjectives before other nouns. In this case the nouns have no plural form. e.g. **morning** paper - **morning** papers, **coffee** table - **coffee** tables
- ◆ The following adjectives have a difference in meaning:
  - a) He gave her a **gold** ring. (= ring made of gold)  
They walked on the **golden** sand. (= sand the colour of gold)
  - b) She bought a **silk** blouse. (= blouse made of silk)  
This new shampoo promises to give you **silky** hair. (= hair which feels like silk)
  - c) They walked up the **stone** path. (= path made of stone)  
The man had a **stony** look on his face. (= cold look - like stone)

### ORDER OF ADJECTIVES

- ◆ When there are two or more adjectives in a sentence, they usually go in the following order:

Opinion  
Adjectives

Fact Adjectives

	size	age	shape	colour	origin	material	used for/be about	noun
It's a fantastic	small	new	round	red	Swiss	plastic	alarm	clock

- ◆ **Ordinal numbers** (first, second, third, etc.) go before **cardinal numbers** (one, two, three, etc.)  
e.g. the **first two** weeks (NOT: ~~the two first weeks~~)
- ◆ The adjectives *afraid*, *alike*, *alive*, *alone*, *ashamed*, *asleep*, *awake*, *content*, *glad*, *ill*, *pleased*, etc. are not followed by nouns.  
e.g. The man was **alive**. Karen is **ill** today.
- ◆ The adjectives *chief*, *elder*, *eldest*, *former*, *indoor*, *inner*, *main*, *only*, *outdoor*, *outer*, *principal*, *upper* are always followed by nouns.  
e.g. This is my **elder** son.
- ◆ We do not usually use a long list of adjectives before a single noun. A noun is usually described by one, two or three adjectives at the most.  
e.g. a **beautiful blue evening** dress
- ◆ Certain adjectives can be used with 'the' as nouns to refer to groups of people in general. These are: **elderly**, **middle-aged**, **old**, **young**, **blind**, **deaf**, **disabled**, **living**, **sick**, **homeless**, **hungry**, **poor**, **rich**, **strong**, **unemployed**, **weak**, etc.  
e.g. **The young** have a lot of energy. (We refer to young people in general.) **but:** **The young people** of our town are organising a charity concert. (We refer to a specific group of young people).  
When we talk about one person we say **A/The young man/woman**, **A/The blind man/woman**, etc.  
e.g. **The young woman** who lives next door is a medical student.

# Adjectives - Adverbs - Comparisons

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**Underline the opinion adjectives, circle the fact ones, then put them in order.**

- 1 lace / blue / beautiful / handkerchief  
...a beautiful blue lace handkerchief...
- 2 a(n) stone / ancient / small / cottage  
.....
- 3 a(n) English / huge / wooden / wardrobe  
.....
- 4 a(n) Chinese / amazing / old / story  
.....
- 5 a(n) American / new / exciting / film  
.....
- 6 a pair of / wire / old / reading / glasses  
.....
- 7 a(n) wooden / lovely / old-fashioned / table  
.....
- 8 a(n) white / linen / Irish / tablecloth  
.....
- 9 a chocolate / large / delicious / cake  
.....
- 10 a(n) orange / ugly / velvet / sofa  
.....

2

**Put the adjectives in the correct order.**

Dear Aunt Margaret,

I'm just writing to thank you for the money you sent me last month. It was very generous of you. I've spent it on some lovely things for my new house.

For the living room I bought a lovely pair of 1) blue velvet... (velvet/blue) curtains and for the bedroom I got a(n) 2) ..... (round/large/antique) mirror. While I was shopping I found some 3) ..... (silver/beautiful/tall) candlesticks, which I have put in the dining room. I also bought some 4) ..... (soft/cotton/thick) towels for the bathroom and a 5) ..... (green/square/woollen) rug for the guest room. Finally, I went to an auction where I bought a 6) ..... (oak/fabulous/English) table for the kitchen.

Thank you once again for the gift.

I hope you'll visit me soon.

Love, Susie

3

**Fill in: the + adjective or the + adjective + people.**

- 1 This charity provides shelter for ...the homeless people... (homeless) of London.
- 2 It is important to look after ..... (elderly), especially in winter.
- 3 Ambulances took ..... (injured) to hospitals in the area.

- 4 ..... (old) in the village are upset about the new road.
- 5 They are changing the building to make it easier for ..... (disabled) to get around.
- 6 ..... (young) in the audience cheered loudly at the end of the concert.
- 7 ..... (poor) of our town receive help from the council.
- 8 Christine is a nurse who looks after ..... (sick).
- 9 ..... (strong) in the group carried the heavy equipment.
- 10 ..... (rich) can afford to live in luxury.

4

**Make compound adjectives to describe the following:**

- 1 A walk that takes ten minutes.  
...A ten-minute walk...
- 2 A story which is written well.  
.....
- 3 A building which has twelve storeys.  
.....
- 4 A train which moves fast.  
.....
- 5 A student who works hard.  
.....
- 6 An office which has good lighting.  
.....
- 7 A holiday which lasts two weeks.  
.....
- 8 A report which has ten pages.  
.....

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**Underline the correct item.**



While Lizzie was tidying the attic of her grandmother's house, she came across an old 1) wooden/wood chest. When she looked inside, she found a doll wrapped in 2) silk/silky paper.

The doll had 3) gold/golden hair and was wearing a long 4) woollen/wool coat. She was beautiful and Lizzie had never seen her before. She sat down on the cold 5) stony/stone floor to examine the doll more carefully. She was wearing a real 6) gold/golden necklace and, underneath the coat, a 7) silky/silk dress. The doll had belonged to her grandmother when she was young. Lizzie carefully wrapped her up again and placed her gently back in the box.

# UNIT 3

## Adjectives - Adverbs - Comparisons

### Adverbs



Sprinters run **quickly**. They wake up **early** in the morning and train **hard** all day.

- ◆ Adverbs usually describe verbs, adjectives, other adverbs or sentences.
- ◆ An adverb can be one word (*carefully*) or a phrase (*in the morning*). Adverbs can describe manner (how), place (where), time (when), frequency (how often), degree (to what extent), etc.  
e.g. a) He drives **carefully**. (How does he drive? Carefully. - adverb of manner)  
b) Your bag is **here**. (Where is it? Here. - adverb of place)  
c) They'll leave **tomorrow**. (When will they leave? Tomorrow. - adverb of time)  
d) He **sometimes** goes fishing at the weekend. (How often does he go fishing? Sometimes. - adverb of frequency)  
e) She is **very** polite. (How polite is she? Very. - adverb of degree)

#### Formation of Adverbs

- ◆ We usually form an adverb by adding **-ly** to the adjective.  
e.g. *serious* - *seriously*
- ◆ Adjectives ending in **-le** drop the **-e** and take **-y**.  
e.g. *gentle* - *gently*
- ◆ Adjectives ending in consonant + **y** drop the **-y** and take **-ily**.  
e.g. *happy* - *happily*
- ◆ Adjectives ending in **-l** take **-ly**.  
e.g. *awful* - *awfully*
- ◆ Adjectives ending in **-ic** usually take **-ally**.  
e.g. *dramatic* - *dramatically* **But:** *public* - *publicly*
- ◆ Adjectives ending in **-e** take **-ly**.  
e.g. *polite* - *politely* **But:** *true* - *truly*

- ◆ The following words end in **-ly**, but they are adjectives: *elderly*, *cowardly*, *friendly*, *likely*, *deadly*, *lively*, *lonely*, *silly*, *ugly*, *lovely*, etc.  
e.g. She's a **lively** child.

We use the words **way/manner** to form their adverbs.

e.g. She greeted me **in a friendly way/manner**.

He complained **in a cowardly way/manner**.

- ◆ The adverbs **loud(ly)**, **cheap(ly)**, **quick(ly)**, **tight(ly)**, **fair(ly)** and **slow(ly)** are often used without **-ly** in everyday English.  
e.g. Come here **quick/quickly**.

- ◆ Some adverbs have the same form as adjectives. These include: **hard**, **fast**, **free**, **high**, **low**, **deep**, **early**, **late**, **long**, **near**, **straight**, **right**, **wrong**. Also **hourly**, **daily**, **weekly**, **monthly** and **yearly**.  
e.g. The lake is **deep**. (adjective)  
They went **deep** into the forest. (adverb)  
These biscuits are very **hard**. (adjective)  
He tried **hard** in order to succeed. (adverb)  
'Bella Donna' is a **weekly** magazine. (adjective)  
It comes out **weekly**. (adverb)

- ◆ The adverbs below have two forms, each with a different meaning:

- The treasure was buried **deep** underground. (= a long way down)  
He is **deeply** in love with her. (= very)
- The hotel guests can use the swimming pool **free**. (= without payment)  
The animals in the safari park can roam **freely**. (= without limit or restriction.)
- The kite flew **high** in the sky. (= at/to a high level)  
He is a **highly** respected doctor. (= very much)
- She arrived **late** for the meeting. (= not early)  
He hasn't been feeling well **lately**. (= recently)
- Which of his songs do you like **most**? (= superlative of much)  
I'm **mostly** interested in modern art. (= mainly)
- As he came **near**, I realised that something was wrong. (= close)  
She **nearly** fainted when she heard the news. (= almost)
- He is a **pretty** strange man. (= rather)  
The bridesmaids were **prettily** dressed in pink. (= in a pretty way)
- He is working **hard** these days. (= with a lot of effort)  
They **hardly** go anywhere now that they have children. (= almost never)

**Note:** **Hardly** has a negative meaning and is often used with: **any**, **anyone**, **anywhere**, **anything** and **ever**.

## Adjectives - Adverbs - Comparisons

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For each gap, turn the adjective into an adverb.

Julia was walking 1) quickly (quick) down the street when she heard someone call her name 2) ..... (loud). She looked 3) ..... (nervous) behind her, but the street was 4) ..... (complete) empty. There was nobody there. 5) ..... (Sudden), she heard her name again. She turned to see her brother running towards her, smiling 6) ..... (cheerful). 'Didn't you hear me?' he laughed 7) ..... (happy). 'Nick!' gasped Julia. 'You 8) ..... (near) frightened me to death!'

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Underline the correct item.

- 1 This is a pretty/prettily complicated situation.
- 2 They had hard/hardly been home for a minute when the phone rang.
- 3 My friends are most/mostly vegetarians.
- 4 Her loose outfit allowed her to move free/freely.
- 5 The shelf was so high/highly that he couldn't reach it.
- 6 John may be late/lately home tonight, as he has a lot of work to do.
- 7 The room was pretty/prettily decorated.
- 8 Children under five years old travel free/freely.
- 9 Sue has near/nearly finished her homework.
- 10 They have been going out a lot late/lately.
- 11 This college is high/highly recommended for its range of courses.
- 12 The miners dug deep/deeply to find coal.
- 13 The new supermarket is very near/nearly our house.
- 14 He is deep/deeply involved in the scandal.
- 15 We found it hard/hardly to get used to living in a foreign country.
- 16 Which of Mel Gibson's films do you like most/mostly?

8

Underline the correct item.

It was Lucy's birthday and she was very 1) sad/sadly. She had been waiting 2) hopeful/hopefully all morning for the postman to arrive. 3) Sudden/Suddenly, the letterbox rattled 4) gentle/gently and an envelope fell 5) soft/softly onto the doormat. Picking it up, Lucy noticed 6) miserable/miserably that it was a bill. There were no cards, no presents and no 7) pretty/prettily bouquets of flowers. Lucy 8) near/nearly burst into tears. Just then, there was a 9) loud/ loudly knock on the door. Opening the door 10) slow/ slowly, Lucy saw all her friends holding 11) brightly/bright wrapped gifts and shouting 'Happy Birthday'. Lucy 12) immediate/immediately cheered up and greeted her friends 13) warm/warmly.

## ORDER OF ADVERBS

- ◆ Adverbs usually go after verbs but before adjectives, other adverbs and participles.

e.g. He speaks softly.

She is amazingly beautiful.

He drove very fast.

Computers are extensively used nowadays.

- ◆ Adverbs of **manner** go before the main verb, after the auxiliary verb or at the end of the sentence.

e.g. She easily passed the exam.

We are eagerly waiting for his letter.

He acted foolishly.

- ◆ Adverbs of **degree** (*absolutely, completely, totally, extremely, very, quite, rather, etc.*) go before an adjective, an adverb or a main verb, but after an auxiliary verb.

e.g. This is totally unacceptable.

They arrived rather early.

We absolutely love her sense of humour.

I don't quite understand what you mean.

- ◆ Adverbs of **frequency** go after auxiliary verbs and the verb to be, but before main verbs.

e.g. He is always ready to help.

Sam often complains about his salary.

- ◆ Adverbs of **place** and **time** usually go at the end of the sentence.

e.g. There is a café nearby.

I'll meet you tomorrow.

Some one-syllable adverbs of time such as soon, now and then, go before the main verb, but after the auxiliary verb or the verb to be.

e.g. She then told him what had happened.

He will soon inform us about his decision.

- ◆ We can put an adverb at the beginning of a sentence if we want to emphasise it.

e.g. Slowly, he closed the door behind him. (manner)

In the living room, there is an antique grandfather clock. (place)

Yesterday, I met the President. (time)

- ◆ When there are two or more adverbs in the same sentence, they usually come in the following order: **manner — place — time**.

e.g. The baby slept quietly in his cot all night long.

If there is a verb of movement, such as go, come, leave in the sentence, then the adverbs come in the following order: **place — manner — time**.

e.g. He came to work by bus this morning.



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## Adjectives - Adverbs - Comparisons

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Put the adverbs in brackets in the correct place in the sentences, as in the example.

One of the most famous fashion designers of the 20th century was Gianni Versace.

- 1 At the age of eighteen, Versace began working for his mother and learned the skills of dressmaking and design. (quickly)  
At the age of eighteen, Versace began working for his mother and ...quickly... learned the skills of dressmaking and design.
- 2 He enjoyed designing coloured clothes. (brightly)  
.....
- 3 He worked throughout his career. (very hard)  
.....
- 4 By 1982, he was famous and had won the first of many awards. (incredibly)  
.....
- 5 His clothes were popular with famous musicians, such as Elton John and George Michael. (extremely)  
.....
- 6 He was asked to design costumes for ballets, shows and concerts. (frequently)  
.....
- 7 He was respected by other fashion designers. (greatly)  
.....
- 8 Versace died in 1997, at the age of fifty. (sadly)  
.....  
.....  
.....



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Say the sentences in as many ways as possible, using the adverbs in brackets.

- 1 I will cut the grass. (on Sunday).  
...I will cut the grass on Sunday./On Sunday, I will cut the grass....
- 2 Joanne has been writing letters to her friends. (all day)
- 3 He has been working. (all day/in his office)
- 4 We placed the box. (on the table/carefully)
- 5 They bought some fruit. (yesterday/at the market)
- 6 He walked. (quietly/out of the room/during the film)
- 7 The party was amazing. (utterly)
- 8 We were lost. (completely)
- 9 Jenny has been reading her magazine. (all morning/in the garden)
- 10 They knew they had lost the match. (then)
- 11 They have been talking. (in the hall/for hours)
- 12 She changed her clothes. (quickly)
- 13 I was feeling tired. (extremely)
- 14 He is doing his homework. (quietly/in his bedroom)
- 15 We watched a film. (last night/at the cinema)

## Fairly - Quite - Rather - Pretty



### ◆ a/an + fairly

e.g. This is **a fairly good** CD, but it's not the best they've made.

### ◆ a) quite + a/an (= enough)

e.g. This is **quite a good** CD. You ought to buy it.

b) **quite + adjectives** such as **horrible, ridiculous, brilliant, amazing, extraordinary, useless, impossible, true, exhausted, certain, etc.**  
(= completely, totally)

e.g. This machine is **quite useless**.  
I'm **quite certain** about this.

### ◆ a) rather + a/an OR a/an + rather (= more than usual, more than wanted, expected, etc.)

e.g. She has **rather a soft/a rather soft** voice.  
I expected the book to be boring, but it was **rather interesting**.

### b) rather + comparative form/too

e.g. Ted is **rather more experienced** than Alec.  
She spends **rather too much** money on clothes.

### ◆ a/an + pretty (= usually in everyday English)

e.g. He had **a pretty nasty** accident the other day.

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Underline the correct word.

- 1 Being a nurse is a quite/pretty stressful job.
- 2 He has rather/fairly a funny name.
- 3 Jane is rather/quite more athletic than Susan.
- 4 She stayed out rather/fairly too late last night.
- 5 That story was quite/rather true.
- 6 She is quite/fairly a friendly woman.
- 7 I didn't expect to enjoy the film, but it was fairly/rather brilliant.
- 8 He is rather/fairly good at his job, but he sometimes makes mistakes.
- 9 It was a fairly/quite interesting book, but it wasn't the best I've read.
- 10 This tin opener doesn't work. It's fairly/quite useless.
- 11 It was pretty/rather a long way from the station to the hotel.
- 12 It was rather/pretty a waste of time watering the plants. It's raining now.

## Adjectives - Adverbs - Comparisons

## Comparisons



The coach is **cheap**.  
It is **slow**, though.



The train is **more expensive**  
than the coach. It is also **faster**.



The plane is **the most expensive**  
of all. It is also **the fastest**.

- ◆ For comparison, adjectives have got two forms: **the comparative** and **the superlative**
- ◆ We use the **comparative form + than** to compare two people, things, etc.  
e.g. Tina is **shorter than** Pam.  
This chair is **more comfortable than** the other one.
- ◆ We use **the + superlative form + of/in** to compare one person, thing, etc with more than one person, thing, etc. in the same group. We use **in** when we talk about places.  
e.g. Peter is **the smartest of all** my students.  
'Don's' is **the most expensive** restaurant **in** our town.
- ◆ The comparative of **one-syllable adjectives** is formed by adding **-er**, and the superlative by adding **-est**. e.g. soft - softer - softest The comparative of **real, right** and **wrong** is formed with **more** and the superlative with **most**. e.g. real - more real - most real Some one-syllable adjectives of abstract meaning such as **clear, safe, true, free, wise**, etc. take either **-er/-est** or **more/most**. e.g. clear - clearer - clearest OR clear - more clear - most clear
- ◆ The comparative of **two-syllable adjectives** ending in **-y** is formed by adding **-ier** and the superlative by adding **-iest**. e.g. easy - easier - easiest (more usual) Also easy - more easy - most easy (less usual)
- ◆ Some two-syllable adjectives such as: **clever, common, stupid, narrow, gentle, friendly, simple**, etc. take either **-er/-est** or **more/most**.  
e.g. common - commoner - commonest  
OR common - more common - most common
- ◆ The comparative of adjectives ending in **-ing** (interesting), **-ed** (pleased), **-ful** (careful) and **-less** (careless) is formed with **more** and the superlative with **most**. e.g. thrilling - more thrilling - most thrilling
- ◆ The comparative of adjectives of **three or more syllables** is formed with **more** and the superlative with **most**.  
e.g. intelligent - more intelligent - most intelligent

## Comparative and Superlative Forms of Adverbs

The comparative and superlative forms of adverbs are formed in the same way as those of adjectives.

- ◆ Adverbs which have the same form as the adjective usually take **-er** in the comparative and **-est** in the superlative.  
e.g. hard - harder - hardest late - later - latest
- ◆ Adverbs formed by adding **-ly** to the adjective take **more** in the comparative and **most** in the superlative form.  
e.g. comfortably - more comfortably - most comfortably

## Irregular Comparatives and Superlatives

adjective/adverb	comparative	superlative
good/well	better	best
bad/badly	worse	worst
much/many/	more	most
a lot of		
little	less	least
far	further/farther	furthest/farthest

Note:

- a) **further/farther** (adv) = longer (in distance)  
e.g. Barclays Bank is **further/farther** away than Lloyds.  
**further** (adj) = more e.g. Let's hope there won't be any **further** delays. (NOT: ~~farther~~ delays)
- b) **elder/eldest** (+noun) (adj) = for members of a family e.g. My **elder** brother is a doctor.  
**But:** My brother is **older** than me. (NOT: ~~elder~~ than)

# UNIT 3

## Adjectives - Adverbs - Comparisons

We use adjectives or their comparative or superlative forms with the following words:

- very + adjective**  
e.g. It's **very cold** today.
- even / a lot / much / far / a bit / a little / slightly + comparative**  
e.g. He seems **much better** today.
- by far + superlative**  
e.g. She's **by far the most beautiful** woman I've ever seen.
- most + adj/adv = very**  
e.g. This is **most unusual**. (It is **very unusual**.)
- any/no + comparative (it is used in questions and negations)**  
e.g. The days aren't getting **any warmer**.  
I want **no more** of that kind of behaviour.

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**Put the adjectives in brackets into the comparative or superlative form, adding any necessary words.**

- A: Did you enjoy the film?  
B: Yes. It was ...*the funniest*... (funny) film I've ever seen.
- A: James is very tall.  
B: Yes. He's ..... (tall) boy in our class.
- A: Was it a good party?  
B: Yes. I left far ..... (late) I had intended to.
- A: Did you like the black dress?  
B: Yes, but it was far ..... (expensive) the blue one.
- A: Why do you want to go to Spain?  
B: Because it's much ..... (warm) England.
- A: Do you enjoy your job?  
B: Oh, yes. It's ..... (good) job I've ever had.
- A: If you need any ..... (far) help, just ask me.  
B: Thank you. That's very kind of you.
- A: My teacher is very clever.  
B: Yes. She's ..... (intelligent) woman I've ever met.
- A: Dinosaurs were ..... (big) houses.  
B: I know. They were enormous.
- A: How much did you pay for that bag?  
B: £5. It was ..... (cheap) one I could find.
- A: That exam was really difficult.  
B: I agree. It was a lot ..... (difficult) I had expected.
- A: Have you heard James playing the piano lately?  
B: Yes, but he doesn't seem to be getting ..... (good).

13

**Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the adjective/adverb in brackets.**

- I like living in the country. It's a lot ...*more peaceful*... (peaceful) than the city.
- I felt very ill last week, but I'm slightly ..... (good) now.

- I can't hear you. Could you speak a little ..... (loud) please?
- Steven is ..... (tall) boy in the basketball team.
- This computer is very old. I need something ..... (modern).
- The new library is far ..... (close) to my house than the old one.
- Jane's new haircut makes her look much ..... (attractive).
- This jacket was by far ..... (expensive) in the shop.

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**Put the adjectives in brackets into the comparative or superlative form, adding any necessary words.**

Dear Anita,

I'm writing to tell you about the auction I went to last weekend. It was held in 1) *the largest* ... (large) house in the village and the items being sold were far 2) ..... (beautiful) I had expected.

I saw 3) ..... (pretty) vase I've ever seen, but it was also 4) ..... (expensive) item there, so I couldn't afford to buy it. I bid for some chairs. They were far 5) ..... (nice) mine, but unfortunately someone made a 6) ..... (good) offer than me and I couldn't afford to make a 7) ..... (high) bid.

In the end, I bought 8) ..... (small) item of all, although it was not 9) ..... (cheap) of all! It was a gold locket, which I'm going to give to my 10) ..... (old) daughter on her 18th birthday. I think it's 11) ..... (lovely) necklace I've ever seen and it was 12) ..... (easy) to carry home than a set of chairs!

I enjoyed the auction very much and hope to go to another one soon. Perhaps next time you'll come with me. Write soon and tell me all your news.

Love,  
Maggie

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**Write the correct form of the comparative or superlative and complete the sentences with your own ideas.**

- In my opinion, ...*the tiger is the most dangerous*... (dangerous) animal of all.
- ..... is ..... (nice) place I have ever been to.
- ..... (sweet) sugar.
- I can ..... (good), but I can ..... even ..... (good).
- I think ..... (difficult) subject of all.
- ..... (valuable) rubies.
- ..... (healthy) food of all.
- ..... (efficient) old ones.
- ..... (intelligent) person I have ever met.
- ..... (expensive) silver jewellery.



## Adjectives - Adverbs - Comparisons

## Types of Comparisons

- ◆ **as + adjective + as**  
not **so/as + adjective + as**  
e.g. She is **as tall as** I am.  
It is **not so/as hot as** it was yesterday.
- ◆ **twice/three times, etc./half as + adjective + as**  
e.g. Their car was **twice as expensive as** ours.
- ◆ **the same ... as**  
e.g. Your dress is **the same** colour **as** mine.
- ◆ **less + (adjective) ... than**  
**the least + (adjective) ... of/in**  
e.g. The Park Hotel is **less expensive than** the Plaza.  
The King George is **the least expensive of** all.
- ◆ **the + comparative ..., the + comparative**  
e.g. **The earlier** we set off, **the earlier** we'll arrive.
- ◆ **comparative + and + comparative**  
e.g. The weather is getting **warmer and warmer**.

16

Fill in the blanks, as in the examples.

- 1 The noise got **louder and louder** ... (loud) until I couldn't bear it any longer.
- 2 **The harder** ... (hard) he works, **the more successful** ... (successful) he becomes.
- 3 It rained ..... (hard) until the river burst its banks.
- 4 ..... (cold) it got, ..... (many) clothes they had to put on to keep warm.
- 5 Jake ran ..... (fast) and won the race.
- 6 ..... (high) he jumped, ..... (loud) the crowd cheered.
- 7 Cars are getting ..... (cheap) as the years go by.
- 8 ..... (young) you are, ..... (easy) you find it to learn things.
- 9 ..... (many) people are opening their own businesses these days.
- 10 ..... (old) he gets, ..... (tall) he grows.

17

Compare the following hobbies using the adjectives from the list.

artistic, easy to learn, tiring, expensive, cheap, relaxing



e.g. *Painting is the most artistic of all.*  
*Golf isn't so/as artistic as carpentry.*

## Like/As

Like is used:

- ◆ **for similarities.** e.g. She swims **like** a fish.
- ◆ **after feel, look, smell, sound, taste + noun.**  
e.g. It feels **like** silk.
- ◆ **with nouns, pronouns or the -ing form to express similarity or contrast.**  
e.g. There's no place **like** home.  
No one can sing **like** him.

As is used:

- ◆ **to say what sb or sth really is (jobs or roles).**  
e.g. She works **as** a tour guide. (She is a tour guide.)  
Harrison Ford was great **as** Indiana Jones.
- ◆ **in certain expressions: as usual, as ... as, as much, such as, the same as.**  
e.g. He started complaining **as usual**.
- ◆ **after accept, be known, class, describe, refer to, regard, use.**  
e.g. He is **known as** the father of modern medicine.
- ◆ **in clauses of manner to mean 'in the way that'.**  
e.g. Do **as** I tell you.

18

Fill in the gaps with like or as.

- 1 A: Tara is a wonderful artist.  
B: Yes. No one else can paint **like** ... her.
- 2 A: I wish Sarah would stop being so immature.  
B: I agree. She acts ..... a child sometimes.
- 3 A: How shall I tie my shoelaces?  
B: Do it ..... we taught you.
- 4 A: The play last night was fantastic.  
B: Yes. The lead actor was wonderful ..... Macbeth.
- 5 A: What does Mark do for a living?  
B: He works ..... a hotel manager.
- 6 A: What kind of meat is this?  
B: I'm not sure. It tastes ..... beef.
- 7 A: I've just bought this dress.  
B: Gosh! It's exactly the same ..... the one I bought!
- 8 A: I'm sure I know that man.  
B: Me too. He looks ..... my old maths teacher.
- 9 A: It was far too hot in that room.  
B: I know. It was ..... being in an oven.
- 10 A: Eric Clapton is very talented, isn't he?  
B: Yes. He is known ..... one of the greatest rock musicians of our time.
- 11 A: What is Peter cooking?  
B: I don't know. It smells ..... fish.



### Common mistakes

- The coffee is quite strong **to drink**. ✗  
The coffee is quite strong. ✓
- Pam is taller **than I**. ✗  
Pam is taller **than me**. ✓  
Pam is taller **than I am**. ✓
- Jack is **not as clever than** Mike. ✗  
Jack is **not as clever as** Mike. ✓
- I'm older than you **two years**. ✗  
I'm **two years** older than you. ✓
- Dad works **hardly**. ✗  
Dad works **hard**. ✓
- He spoke to me **angrier** than usual. ✗  
He spoke to me **more angrily** than usual. ✓
- This car is **twice more expensive than** that one. ✗  
This car is **twice as expensive as** that one. ✓
- My sister is five years **elder than** me. ✗  
My sister is five years **older than** me. ✓
- The Nile is **the more longer** river in the world. ✗  
The Nile is **the longest** river in the world. ✓
- Tom is **a better student from** his sister. ✗  
Tom is **a better student than** his sister. ✓
- Mount Everest is the highest mountain **of the world**. ✗  
Mount Everest is the highest mountain **in the world**. ✓
- Their house is **modern as** ours. ✗  
Their house is **as modern as** ours. ✓
- The little girl **looked as** an angel. ✗  
The little girl **looked like** an angel. ✓
- He **smiled friendly**. ✗  
He **smiled in a friendly way**. ✓
- It is **cold extremely** today. ✗  
It is **extremely cold** today. ✓
- Call me if you need **farther information**. ✗  
Call me if you need **further information**. ✓
- He is **a quite tall** man. ✗  
He is **quite a tall** man. ✓
- The new sofa is **quite bigger** than the old one. ✗  
The new sofa is **rather bigger** than the old one. ✓

19

#### Correct the mistakes.

- 1 I'm shorter than you three inches.
- 2 Steve is older than I.
- 3 The little boy sang as a bird.
- 4 Paul is not as handsome than Tom.
- 5 She is a quite pretty girl.
- 6 Sally is the more taller girl in our class.
- 7 Let me know if you need any farther help.
- 8 Tracey studies hardly.

- 9 My best friend is two years elder than me.
- 10 The church is the oldest building of the village.
- 11 She did her homework more careful than usual.
- 12 His flat is big as mine.
- 13 Her new car is quite faster than her old one.
- 14 This cake is quite sweet to eat.
- 15 The green dress is twice cheaper than the black one.
- 16 I feel ill very today.
- 17 She laughed happy.

20

#### Cross out the unnecessary word.

- 1 He is much more taller than his brother.
- 2 As time went by, I got the more and more nervous.
- 3 I hardly not know anyone in my new job.
- 4 Going on holiday abroad is very more exciting than staying at home.
- 5 This flat is so bigger than the one we saw yesterday.
- 6 Her brooch is twice as more expensive as mine.
- 7 The more time you spend with your children, the more than they appreciate it.
- 8 This is the most funniest book I've ever read.
- 9 This chewing gum tastes as like cinnamon.
- 10 She invited the most of her friends to a barbecue.
- 11 Your handbag is the same colour as to mine.
- 12 He is regarded as like the best author of the century.
- 13 The weather is becoming hotter and even hotter.
- 14 Talking to him was as like talking to a brick wall.
- 15 It was a quite an interesting lecture.
- 16 Paul is as much old as Michael.
- 17 This ring is by far prettier than the other one we saw.
- 18 This house is the less expensive than the others.

21

#### Read the text and fill in the word which best fits each space. Use only one word in each space.

New York City is one of 1) the largest cities 2) ..... the world. It is also one of the most densely populated, with an estimated 7,400,000 inhabitants. Manhattan is the 3) ..... popular area of the city with tourists and has 4) ..... interesting sights. There is also 5) ..... a large number of businesses in this area of the city, including the head offices of some of the world's leading companies. New York's subway system provides transport for more 6) ..... 33% of the city's work force.

New York is also regarded 7) ..... a centre of entertainment. Broadway is the scene of many box-office hits, Carnegie Hall is one of the 8) ..... famous concert halls in the world and the city is also the home of several opera and ballet companies.

With 9) ..... choice of food, entertainment and social life than any other city, it is 10) ..... any wonder that people flock to New York to experience life in the Big Apple.

## Adjectives - Adverbs - Comparisons

## Phrasal Verbs

<b>come across:</b>	(tr) meet/find by chance; <b>run across</b>
<b>come along:</b>	(int) 1) hurry up; <b>come on</b> , 2) appear; arrive by chance
<b>come by:</b>	(tr) obtain
<b>come down with:</b>	(tr) become ill; <b>go down with</b>
<b>come into:</b>	(tr) inherit
<b>come off:</b>	1) (int) succeed, 2) leave (sth)
<b>come out:</b>	1) go on strike, 2) (of flowers) begin to blossom, 3) (int) be published; <b>bring out</b> , 4) (news, truth) be revealed; <b>bring out</b>
<b>come over:</b>	(int) visit
<b>come round:</b>	1) visit casually, 2) (int) regain consciousness; <b>come to/bring round</b> , 3) change one's point of view
<b>come up:</b>	1) (int) be mentioned; <b>bring up</b> , 2) arise; occur
<b>come up against:</b>	(tr) encounter (difficulties); <b>run up against</b>
<b>come up with:</b>	(tr) find; think of (a solution, an answer, etc)
<b>cut down:</b>	(tr) 1) cause to fall by cutting, 2) (int) reduce sth
<b>cut down on:</b>	(tr) reduce consumption; <b>cut back on</b>
<b>cut into:</b>	interrupt; <b>break in</b>
<b>cut off:</b>	1) disconnect, 2) (usu passive) isolate
<b>cut out:</b>	(tr) take out, omit
<b>be cut out for/</b>	
<b>to be:</b>	be suited for (a profession)

22

## Fill in the correct particle.

- The truth came **out** when the police started their investigation.
- I came ..... my old school books yesterday when I was tidying the attic.
- My house has a beautiful garden. Why don't you come ..... and see it?
- I'm sorry to cut ..... your conversation, but I'd like to ask a question.
- The private detective came ..... the case when he couldn't solve it.
- I don't think Alison is cut ..... to be a nurse. She faints at the sight of blood.
- I was waiting for the bus when Emma came ..... It was a lovely surprise to see her!
- The boys came ..... a brilliant idea for raising money.

- Ellen is in bed. She's come ..... the flu.
- They decided to cut ..... some of the text to make it shorter.
- You ought to cut ..... the amount of sugar you eat.
- Come ..... boys; Let's get going.
- The electricity was cut ..... when they didn't pay the electricity bill.
- I wish Dad would come ..... to the fact that I'm not a child any more.
- How did you come ..... that beautiful necklace?
- His new novel has just come ....., and it is bound to be a best-seller.
- The village was cut ..... during the heavy snowstorm.
- A few problems came ..... during the course of the project.
- He came ..... a fortune when his father died.
- The patient slowly came ..... after his operation.
- The builders came ..... some major problems while they were laying the foundations.

23

## Underline the correct preposition.

- This antique table dates back **from/to/in** 1872.
- There is great demand **from/for/of** fresh products.
- The manager demands respect **of/from/to** his employees.
- My plants died **from/by/in** lack of water.
- Princess Diana died **of/from/in** an accident.
- One disadvantage **of/to/in** smoking is that it is bad for your health.
- There are some disadvantages **of/in/to** owning a car.
- John is an expert **at/on/of** the subject of British history.
- Mandy is an expert **in/with/on** a needle and thread.
- Adam is engaged **with/to/in** a famous actress.
- Mr Hills is engaged **to/in/with** an important meeting.
- I dreamt **of/about/for** taking my exams last night.
- I often dream **from/of/about** travelling abroad.
- There is a difference **between/of/from** being alone and being lonely.
- He differs **from/of/between** his brother in many ways.
- Small children are dependent **on/of/with** their parents.
- A good friend is someone you can depend **by/for/on** in difficult times.
- Having a broken arm, he had difficulty **by/in/of** dressing himself.
- Jake was disappointed **by/with/of** his exam results.
- My parents disapprove **with/for/of** motorbikes.
- We were dissatisfied **with/by/of** the hotel service, so we complained to the manager.
- Kate is experienced **of/with/in** working with children.
- There was no excuse **of/for/against** his behaviour.
- He promised to pay for the damage **to/for/of** my car.
- The children were very excited **by/about/for** the trip.

### IN OTHER WORDS

Study these examples. The second sentence has a similar meaning to the first sentence.

- Beth is more intelligent than Kate.  
**as** Kate **isn't as/so intelligent as** Beth.  
**less** Kate **is less intelligent than** Beth.
- Can't you drive any faster than that?  
**fastest** Is that **the fastest you can** drive?
- Fiona has received the same number of letters as me.  
**many** Fiona has received **as many letters as** me.
- I've never read such an interesting book.  
**the** It's **the most interesting book** I've ever read.
- Nora is the most careful driver of all.  
**as** No one else **drives as carefully as** Nora does.  
**than** Nora is **more careful than any** other driver.  
Nora is a **more careful driver than** anyone else.  
Nora **drives more carefully than** anyone else.
- As she gets older, she becomes more sophisticated.  
**the** The older she gets, **the more sophisticated** she becomes.

24

Complete the sentences with two to five words, including the word in bold.

- I've never heard such a silly excuse.  
**the** It's ...*the silliest excuse*... I've ever heard.
- Jane's car was cheaper than Adam's.  
**less** Jane's car ..... Adam's.
- As we got closer, I became more nervous.  
**the** The closer we got, .....  
I became.
- Tom has bought the same number of sweets as Lucy.  
**many** Tom has bought ..... Lucy.
- Ben is smarter than Steve.  
**as** Steve ..... Ben.
- Can't you eat any more than that?  
**most** Is that ..... you can eat?
- As I study more, I get better grades.  
**the** The more I study, ..... I get.
- I've never known such an independent young woman.  
**the** She's .....  
I've ever known.
- Josie has the same number of CDs as David.  
**many** Josie has ..... David.
- Keith is the best tennis player of all.  
**than** Keith .....  
anyone else.

### Revision Box

25

Choose the correct answer.

- 'You ...*B*... a mess.'  
'Sorry. I'll tidy up.'  
A always make B are always making  
C will always make
- 'You had better ..... that letter today.'  
'OK. I'll do it.'  
A posting B to post C post
- 'It's not worth ..... the house now. It's winter.'  
'I agree. Let's wait till spring comes.'  
A painting B to paint C paint
- 'You look happy.'  
'I am. I ..... my holiday.'  
A think about B am thinking about  
C thought about
- 'Jenny has been writing letters all morning.'  
'Yes. She ..... six letters so far.'  
A wrote B has been writing C has written
- 'Bill looks very tired.'  
'Yes. He ..... the house all afternoon.'  
A has been cleaning B has cleaned  
C had been cleaning
- 'Have you seen Jackie recently?'  
'No. I haven't seen her ..... May.'  
A since B for C before
- 'Pauline always sits by herself.'  
'Yes, she is too shy ..... to anyone.'  
A to talk B talking C talk
- 'Peter has been spending a lot of money lately.'  
'I know. He ..... a new computer yesterday.'  
A has bought B bought C had bought
- 'Did John visit you last night?'  
'Yes. I ..... on the phone when he arrived.'  
A talked B am talking C was talking
- 'Joanne is a secretary, isn't she?'  
'Yes. She ..... as a secretary for seven years.'  
A has been working B is working C works
- 'Is Katie enjoying her university course?'  
'Yes. She ..... the lectures very interesting.'  
A found B had found C finds
- 'Why are you all so excited?'  
'Dad suggested ..... the weekend in the mountains.'  
A spend B to spend C spending