

GRAMMAR SUMMARY

We can compare people and things with each other using *as ... as*, *-er than* or *more ... than*.

You're as silly as me. Luke's younger than me.

The second problem was much more difficult than the other three.

We can use *the -est* or *the most* to compare people and things with all of their group.

Carl is the fastest of the young sprinters. Ramona is the most sociable person in the class.

We use *-er* and *-est* with shorter adjectives and some short adverbs. We use *more* and *most* with other adjectives and adverbs.

Double comparatives

It's getting colder and colder. The children are more and more difficult these days.

the ... the ...

The more money she has, the more she wants.

The warmer it gets, the happier I am.

Some colourful and unusual comparisons:

as slow as a broken down snail

as dirty as a dustbin lid

as thick as two short planks (= 'stupid')

as black as two o'clock in the morning

as ugly as home-made soap

as happy as a dog with two tails

as poor as a church mouse

as crooked as a dog's hind leg

as crooked as a barrel of fish hooks

as nervous as a brick wall

as brave as the first man who ate an oyster

as cold as an ex-wife's heart

as big as the little end of nothing

as welcome as a wet shoe

as noisy as two skeletons dancing
on a tin roof

as dark as the inside of a wolf

as scarce as hen's teeth

as exciting as watching paint dry

Why study?

The more I study, the more I know.

The more I know, the more I forget.

The more I forget, the less I know.

So why study?

revise the basics: comparative and superlative adjectives

forms

more/most beautiful	more/most careful	more/most distant	more/most intelligent
easier, easiest	faster, fastest	happier, happiest	later, latest
		nicer, nicest	older, oldest

Comparative adjectives are forms like *younger*, *more expensive*.

Superlative adjectives are forms like *youngest*, *most expensive*.

DO IT YOURSELF Look at the examples at the top of the page, and then complete rules 1–5 from the box.

put <i>more</i> and <i>most</i> in front.	put <i>more</i> and <i>most</i> in front.	add <i>-r</i> , <i>-st</i> .
add <i>-er</i> , <i>-est</i> .	change <i>y</i> to <i>i</i> and add <i>-er</i> , <i>-est</i> .	

To make the comparative and superlative of:

- one-syllable adjectives ending in *-e*,
- other one-syllable adjectives,
- two-syllable adjectives ending in *-y*,
- other two-syllable adjectives,
- longer adjectives,

DO IT YOURSELF doubling. Look at the examples in the box and choose the correct way of completing the rule.

bigger	fatter	hottest	longest	oldest	meaner	plainer	shortest	sweeter	thinnest
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Before *-er* and *-est*, we double the last letter of ...

- all adjectives.
- adjectives that have three letters.
- adjectives that have one vowel.
- adjectives that end in one vowel + one consonant.
- adjectives that end in one consonant.
- adjectives that end in *-g* or *-t*.

Write the comparatives and superlatives.

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1 boring | 8 interesting |
| 2 cheap | 9 lazy |
| 3 fine | 10 nervous |
| 4 funny | 11 sad |
| 5 green | 12 silly |
| 6 handsome | 13 slim |
| 7 hard | 14 wet |

A few words have irregular comparatives and superlatives.

good – better – best	bad – worse – worst	far – farther/further – farthest/furthest
old – older/elder – oldest/eldest	little – less – least	much/many – more – most

Farther/further and *farthest/furthest* are both used to talk about distance.

We use *further* to mean 'additional' in some expressions. (NOT *farther*)

She lives three miles *farther/further* away from the office than I do.

further education *further* information *further* discussion

Elder and *eldest* are used with *brother*, *sister*, *son*, *daughter*, *grandson*, *granddaughter*.

John's my *elder* brother. (I have one brother older than me.)

Sarah's my *eldest* sister. (I have more than one sister.)

Complete the sentences with irregular comparatives.

- 1 'My computer keeps crashing.' 'Get a computer.'
- 2 'Why did your song win the competition?' 'It was the'
- 3 It takes me the longest to get to work because my house is the from here.
- 4 My cold was getting, so I went home.
- 5 I used most of the old apples, but I had to throw away the three
- 6 Megan was born in 1990. Her sisters Sarah and Rachel were born in 1992 and 1993. So Megan is Sarah's sister, and she's Rachel's
- 7 Jacob and Ryan were born in 1991 and 1994. So Jacob is Ryan's brother.
- 8 The doctors don't know what's wrong, so they're going to do tests.
- 9 I took the job that paid the money for the work.
- 10 We've got money than Andy and Tara, but we're happier. Maybe.
- 11 It's a nicer drive if you go there through the mountains, but it's much

using comparatives and superlatives

We use a **comparative** (with *than*) to compare one person, thing, action or group with another person, thing etc.
We use a **superlative** to compare one person, thing etc with the **whole group** that he/she/it belongs to.





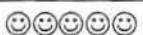

Mary's taller than her three sisters. Mary's the tallest of the four girls.

Your accent is worse than mine. Your accent is the worst in the class.

Before a superlative we normally use *the* or a possessive.

the best singer my oldest friend John's most attractive quality

Compare hotels. Here are some facts about three hotels. Write at least ten sentences.

	HOTEL X	HOTEL Y	HOTEL Z
expensive?	£££££	£££	£
comfortable?			
efficient?	★★	★★★	★★★★★
friendly?			
convenient?	city centre	middle of nowhere	two miles out

Hotel Y is more expensive than Hotel Z. Hotel X is the most expensive of the three hotels.

Some people use a **comparative** instead of a superlative when the **whole group** has two members.

I like them both, but Sally's the nicer/nicest of the two.

You can have the bigger/biggest steak if you like - I'm not very hungry.

In some answers, both contracted forms (for example *I'm*, *don't*) and full forms (for example *I am*, *do not*) are possible. Normally both are correct.

revise the basics: comparative and superlative adverbs

Comparative and superlative adverbs normally have *more* and *most*. We can put *the* before superlative adverbs, but we often leave it out.

Could you drive *more slowly*? (NOT ... *slowlier*?)

French is the language he speaks (the) *most easily*.

The following adverbs have *-er, -est* like adjectives: *early, fast, hard, late, near, soon*.

Better, best, worse and *worst* can be used as adverbs.

Complete the sentences with the comparatives or superlatives of words from the box.

beautifully clearly early fast fluently hard late peacefully

- 1 If we don't walk, we'll never arrive on time.
- 2 She sings than anyone else I've ever heard.
- 3 Andy's the most intelligent, but Sue works
- 4 Eight is late – could you possibly get here any?
- 5 Of all the children, Helen writes
- 6 I would sleep if I weren't worried about Tom.
- 7 For the 10.20 train, we can leave home is 10.
- 8 Mark speaks French of all the boys in his class.

Write sentences with comparative and superlative adverbs about people you know (family, friends, ...). For example, who sings best, sings worst, cooks better than you, cooks worse than you, can run fastest, gets up earliest, goes to bed later than you, works hardest?

Carlos sings best in my family. Kenji speaks English better than me.

Complete the captions with comparative adverbs.



A She ought to drive



B He ought to drive

IS ... AS

We use **as ... as** to say that people or things are equal in some way.

She's **as tall as** her brother. Is it **as good as** you expected? She speaks French **as well as** the rest of us.

After **not**, we can use **so ... as** instead of **as ... as**.

He's **not so/as successful as** his father.

Other useful structures: **as much/many as**, **the same as**.

I haven't got **as much** time **as** I thought. We need **as many** people **as possible**.

She earns **twice as much** money **as** me / **as** I do.

He went to **the same** school **as** me / **as** I did. (NOT ... ~~to a~~ same school ...)

- 1 Look at the information about Jake and Susie, and then write sentences comparing them using **as ... as**, **not so/as ... as** and **the same ... as**.

	JAKE	SUSIE
UNIVERSITY	Manchester	Liverpool
SCHOOL	Leeds H.S.	Leeds H.S.
HEIGHT	1.92 m	1.70 m
WEIGHT	87 kg	56 kg
JOB	accountant	accountant
BORN: WHEN? WHERE?	27.7.84 Leeds	31.3.84 Leeds
SALARY	£26,000	£52,000
WORKS FOR	IBM	Rolls Royce
HOLIDAY	5 weeks	3 weeks
ADDRESS	3 Ross Street, Manchester	8 Ross Street, Manchester
CHILDREN	2	1
LANGUAGES	Fluent French, some German	Fluent French, fluent German
READING	Newspapers	Newspapers, magazines, non-fiction

Susie went to the same school as Jake.

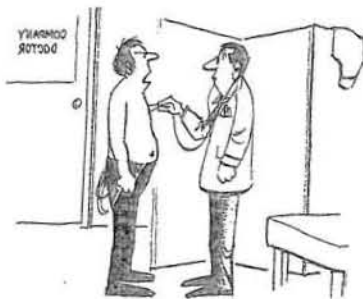
Jake's not as old as her.

Here are the beginnings of some traditional expressions with **as ... as**.

See how many you can put together correctly from the box.

a beetroot a mouse grass the grave the hills ice ✓
iron night a pancake a picture a rake a sheet

- 1 as cold **as ice**
2 as black
3 as flat
4 as green
5 as hard
6 as pretty
7 as quiet
OR
8 as red
9 as thin
10 as white



'How d'you mean I'm as fit as a man of thirty - I am thirty!'

more on comparatives

We can use double comparatives to say that things are changing.
 We went *more and more slowly*. (NOT ... *more slowly and more slowly*.)
 It's *getting colder and colder*.

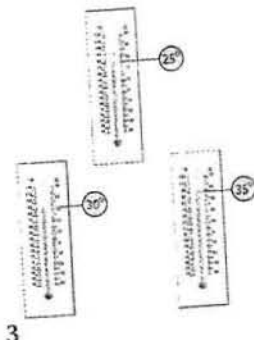
Look at the pictures and complete the sentences.



1



2



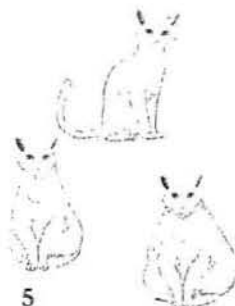
3

$$x^2 = 4$$

$$y = \sqrt{\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2}}$$

$$y = \frac{(\sin \frac{1}{2}(N+1)\theta \sin \frac{1}{2}N\theta)}{\sin \frac{1}{2}N\theta}$$

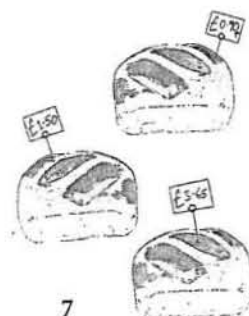
4



5



6



7

- 1 She's driving
- 2 She's getting
- 3 It's getting
- 4 The maths lessons are getting
- 5 That cat's getting
- 6 I'm getting
- 7 Bread's getting

Complete the sentences with *is/are getting* and double comparatives of words from the box.

bad boring dangerous ✓ difficult expensive good hard long young

- My mother's driving *is getting more and more dangerous* as the years go by.
- 1 My daughter's maths homework
 - 2 Jeremy's doing well. His piano playing
 - 3 It seems as if police officers
 - 4 My temper
 - 5 It to find time for everything you want to
 - 6 Professional tennis to watch.
 - 7 Restaurants
 - 8 School holidays

We can use *the ... the* with comparatives to say that things change or vary together. Note the word order.

The older I get, the happier I am. (NOT *Older I get, more I am happy.*)

The more dangerous it is, the more I like it. (NOT *The more it is dangerous ...*)

The more money he has, the more useless things he buys. (NOT *The more he has money ...*)

'Can I invite some friends over?' 'Sure. The more the better.'

- 3 Complete the sentences with expressions from the box. Use *the ... the*.
(Different answers are possible.)

faster/louder	longer/more	more/angrier	more/less	more/less
more/more	older/darker	older/more ✓	warmer/more	

- ▶ *The older* Mark gets, *the more* he looks like his grandfather.
1 he talked, I listened.
2 I live here, I like it.
3 it got, time we spent on the beach.
4 I get to know you, I understand you.
5 money he lost, it made him.
6 he drove, he laughed.
7 clothes she buys, clothes she wants to buy.
8 I get, my hair gets.

Before comparatives, we can use *much*, *far*, *very much*, *a little*, *a bit* (informal), *a lot/lots* (informal), *any*, *no* and *even*.

He's much/far older than her. (NOT *He's very older...*) *She's very much happier in the new job.*

I feel a little / a bit better. *These grapes are a lot sweeter than the others.*

The train's no quicker than the bus. *You look even more beautiful than usual.*

- 4 Compare some of the things in the box. Use *much / very much / far / a little / a bit / a lot / even / no / any*.

the Taj Mahal	the Great Pyramid	the White House	a Ferrari	a Ford	a Volvo
the Amazon	the Thames	the Rhône	a pen	a typewriter	a computer
a dog	a cat	a parrot	a horse	living in the country	living in the city
the Mediterranean	the Atlantic	Europe	Africa	Asia	North America
South America	you	your mother/father/friend/boss/teacher			

- ▶ *The Taj Mahal is much older than the White House.*
.....
.....
.....
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.....
.....

more about superlatives

After superlatives, we often use *of*.

It was the most successful of his early plays.

She's the best player of us all.

The nicest moment of the day.

But we do **not** use *of* with a singular word for a place or group.

I'm the happiest man in the world. (NOT ... of the world.) *She's the best player in the team.*

Of or in after a superlative?

- the most interesting all the suggestions
- the most experienced general the Army
- 1 the most famous actor them all
- 2 the best restaurant Rome
- 3 the most expensive the books I bought
- 4 the worst student the class

- 5 the highest mountain Europe
- 6 the oldest person my family
- 7 the most frightening the four men
- 8 the shortest day the year
- 9 the most comfortable chair the office
- 10 the most valuable the paintings in the gallery

Write sentences with superlatives.

- > Where I live, August / quiet month / year
- > Which / high mountain / Africa / ?
- 1 Who / young / your three sisters / ?
- 2 Which / cheap / these three jackets / ?
- 3 For a time, my grandfather / famous footballer / country
- 4 Cassie and Louise / fast swimmers / team
- 5 When I was a child, I / tall boy / my class
- 6 For me, the early morning / good time / day
- 7 Andy is very quiet, but he / interesting person / the group

We normally use **the** before a superlative when we are comparing one person/thing/group with others.

It's the longest day of the year. *This winter is the coldest in living memory.*

But we do **not** use **the** when we are comparing somebody or something with him/her/itself in other situations.

He's nicest when he's had a few drinks. (NOT He's the nicest when ...) *England is best in spring.*

Invent suitable beginnings for these sentences. The or not?

- > worst in February.
- > best singer of her generation.
- 1 most beautiful city in my country.
- 2 most dangerous when they're hungry.
- 3 best modern writer.
- 4 most interesting person I've ever met.
- 5 quietest in the early morning.
- 6 most efficient way to learn a language.
- 7 most comfortable when there aren't too many people around.

like and as; so and such

We can use *like* and *as* to say that things are similar.

Like is a preposition, used before a noun or pronoun.

As is a conjunction, used before subject + verb or a prepositional expression.

He runs *like* the wind. She looks *like* me.

Nobody knows her *as* I do. On Friday, *as* on Monday, we meet at eight.

Note the common expressions *as I said, as you know, as you see, as usual.*

1 Like or as?

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1 He died he lived, fighting. | 6 My brother isn't at all me. |
| 2 Being in love is an illness. | 7 She left she came, silently. |
| 3 It's mended, you can see. | 8 You're shy, me. |
| 4 In Paris, in Rome, traffic is heavy. | 9 Your smile is your sister's. |
| 5 His eyes are knives. | 10 I said, you're too late. |

In informal speech (but not writing), many people use *like* as a conjunction.

Nobody loves you *like* I do. *Like* I said, she wasn't there.

To talk about jobs, functions etc, we use *as*, not *like*.

He's working *as* a waiter. (NOT *He's working like a waiter.*) I used my shoe *as* a hammer.

Compare:

As your brother, I must warn you to be careful. (I am your brother.)

Like your brother, I must warn you ... (We both warn you.)

We use *so* before an adjective (without a noun), or an adverb.

We use *such* before (adjective +) noun. *A/An* comes after *such*.

She's *so* babyish. I'm *so* hungry that I could eat a horse.

... your country, which is *so* beautiful. (NOT ... *your so beautiful country.*)

I wish you wouldn't drive *so* fast.

She's *such* a baby. I didn't know you had *such* nice friends.

It was *such* a comfortable bed that I went straight to sleep.

Put in *such* or *so*.

- The weather was cold that all the football matches were cancelled.
- The book was boring that I stopped reading it.
- It was a good film that I went to see it three times.
- They've got a nice house that I always love staying there.
- It was a hot day that nobody could do any work.
- Their garden is beautiful!
- His voice is pleasant that I could listen to him all day.
- I don't know why she talks in a loud voice.
- The canteen served bad food that nobody could eat it.
- The case was heavy that I couldn't lift it.

comparison: more practice

1 Forms. Write the comparatives and superlatives.

active	<i>more active, most active</i>	bad	.....
clean	.....	dirty	.....
famous	.....	
far	.....	OR	.....
fit	.....	green	.....
happy	.....	lazy	.....
modern	.....	nice	.....
red	.....	short	.....
slim	.....	sweet	.....
tall	.....	thin	.....
tiring	.....	white	.....

2 Mixed structures. Right or wrong? Correct the mistakes or write 'Correct'.

- ▶ The weather's ~~gooder~~ today. *better*
- ▶ I feel much happier now. *Correct.*
- 1 My feet are cold like ice.
- 2 You're the strangest man of the world.
- 3 Ann's more late than usual.
- 4 This shirt's not so expensive as the others.
- 5 More I learn, more I forget.
- 6 We need to ask further questions.
- 7 It's getting more warm and more warm.
- 8 The more he has money, the more he spends.
- 9 Pete's the fastest swimmer in the team.
- 10 I feel the same like you.
- 11 The older I get, the less I know.
- 12 Britain is the nicest in April.
- 13 I worked like a tourist guide for a year.
- 14 The work's getting more and more boring.
- 15 I got there earlier that the others.

3 Comparisons. Make two sentences for each item.

- ▶ a tiger / large / a leopard large / of all the big cats / ?
A tiger is larger than a leopard. Is it the largest of all the big cats?
- 1 this box / strong / that one / ? strong / you've got / ?
.....
- 2 Alistair / tall / anyone else / the team tall / the team
.....
- 3 the state of Alaska / big / any of the other states / the US big / the US
.....
- 4 this wine / expensive / that one expensive / in the world
.....
- 5 Max's party / good / Rob's party good / I've ever been to
.....
- 6 this job / bad / my last one bad / I've ever had
.....

4 The ... the ... Circular situations: make sentences like the one in the example.

▶ He drives fast; he gets nervous.

The faster he drives, the more nervous he gets. And the more nervous he gets, the faster he drives.

1 He eats ice cream; he gets fat.

The more ice cream

2 He reads; he forgets.

.....

3 She ignores him; he loves her.

.....

4 She buys shoes; she wants shoes. (Mind the word order.)

.....

5 We spend money; we have friends.

.....

6 I sleep; I'm tired.

.....

5 Grammar in a text. Put in the superlatives of the words in the box.

fast fast high large large long long long small tall

The ¹ man in medical history was Robert Pershing Wadlow (US). When he was measured in 1940 he was 2.72 m tall.

The world's ² hair measured 5.62 m in 2004. It belonged to Xie Qiuping (China), who had been growing her hair since 1973, from the age of 13.

The ³ ski lesson was given to 594 skiers by Hansjürg Gredig at Sarn-Heinzenberg, Switzerland, on 23 February 2008. The 16-minute lesson extended over 1,300 metres. There were extra instructors for every 20-30 people to help them follow the lesson correctly.

The ⁴ windsurfing journey was made by Flavio Jardim and Diogo Guerreiro. They went from Chui to Oiapoque on the Brazilian Coast (8,120 km) between May 2004 and July 2005.

The ⁵ motorised sofa was driven at 148 km/h in 2007 by Marek Turowski (UK).

The ⁶ time for a hundred-metre barefoot sprint on ice is 17.35 sec. The record was set by Nico Surings in Eindhoven, Netherlands, in December 2006.

The world's ⁷ ruby measures 130 x 138 x 145 mm and weighs 8184 g. It belongs to a Chinese jewellery company.

The ⁸ ears on a dog belong to Tigger, a bloodhound, owned by a couple in Illinois. The ears measured 34.9 cm (right) and 34.2 cm (left) in September 2004.

The world's ⁹ jump by a pig is 70 cm. It was made by a Japanese pig called Kotetsu in 2004.

The ¹⁰ dog measured in 2005 was a female chihuahua who lived in Florida. She was 15.2 cm long.

(information from Guinness Book of World Records website)

6 Internet exercise. Get some information about world records from the internet and complete these sentences.

1 The oldest

2 The biggest

3 The fastest

4 The longest

5 The heaviest

comparison: revision test

Write the comparatives and superlatives.

boring	bright
cheap	clean
distant	exciting
far	fit
funny	honest
lazy	nice
plain	safe
short	slim
thin	well
wet	

Choose the right words.

- I've got three sisters. Jane's the older / elder / eldest.
- Do you feel better *that* / *than* / *as* yesterday?
- Your dress is *same as* / *the same as* / *the same like* mine.
- The doctors are going to do *further* / *farther* / *furthest* / *farthest* tests.
- This hotel is *worse* / *the worse* / *worst* / *the worst* I've ever stayed in.
- I've got a *more easy* / *an easier* job this week.
- I always feel *best* / *the best* about 11 o'clock in the morning.
- Karen's working *as* / *like* a secretary at the moment.
- Rebecca is *the more* / *the most* / *more* / *most* remarkable singer I've ever heard.
- More* / *The more* / *The most* I listen to him, *more* / *the more* bored I get.

Right or wrong? Correct the mistakes or write 'Correct'.

- The weather's getting *badder*. *worse*
- The train's even later than usual. *Correct*
- Real life is stranger as novels or films.
- He's the fastest man of the world this year.
- The older I get, the less hair I have.
- Holidays are becoming more and more cheap.
- I'll see you this evening like usual.
- The more he gets tired, the more mistakes he makes.
- My father is a lot older than my mother.
- Did you receive any farther information?
- The ticket wasn't as expensive as I expected.
- This shirt's not so expensive as the others.
- His heart is cold like ice.
- I'm getting more bored and more bored.
- They say it's the best restaurant of the world.
- Tolstoy is the more famous Russian novelist.
- He's definitely nicest when he's asleep.

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- 1 1 That girl always spends hours in the bathroom.
2 I have never been to Jamaica.
3 We got home very late last night.
4 Somebody was definitely trying to open the door.
5 He even puts tomato ketchup on cornflakes.
6 Life is sometimes hard.
7 I know some French, and I speak Russian very badly.
8 We have never been invited to Jamie's parties.
9 Alice probably needs somebody to help her.
10 The water was usually too cold for swimming.
- 2 1 Correct. 2 is always 3 in a friendly way/ voice 4 interested 5 Correct. 6 even took 7 beautiful 8 completely 9 Correct. 10 carefully 11 intelligent 12 big old 13 Correct. 14 very well yesterday 15 new black

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- 1 1 add -r, -st. 2 add -er, -est. 3 change y to i and add -er, -est. 4 put *more* and *most* in front. 5 put *more* and *most* in front.
- 2 4 is the correct completion.
- 3 1 more boring, most boring
2 cheaper, cheapest
3 finer, finest
4 funnier, funniest
5 greener, greenest
6 more handsome, most handsome
(also possible: handsomer, handsomest)
7 harder, hardest
8 more interesting, most interesting
9 lazier, laziest
10 more nervous, most nervous
11 sadder, saddest
12 sillier, silliest
13 slimmer, slimmest
14 wetter, wettest

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- 4 1 better 2 best. 3 farthest/furthest
4 worse 5 worst. 6 elder, eldest 7 elder
8 further 9 most; least 10 less 11 farther/ further
- 5 (Examples of possible answers)
Hotel Y is more comfortable than Hotel X.
Hotel Y is the most comfortable of the three hotels.
Hotel Z is more efficient than the other two hotels.

Hotel Z is much more efficient than Hotel X.
Hotel Y is the friendliest of the three hotels.
Hotel X is the most convenient.
Hotel Y is the farthest/furthest from the city centre.

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- 1 1 faster 2 more beautifully/clearly 3 (the) hardest. 4 earlier 5 the most beautifully/clearly. 6 more peacefully 7 the latest 8 the most fluently
- 3 A more slowly B faster

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- 1 (examples of possible answers)
Jake didn't go to the same university as Susie.
Susie went to the same school as Jake.
Susie isn't / Susie's not so/as tall as Jake.
Susie doesn't weigh so/as much as Jake.
Jake has/does the same job as Susie.
Jake isn't / Jake's not so/as old as Susie.
Susie earns twice as much as Jake.
Jake doesn't work for the same firm as Susie.
Susie's holiday isn't so/as long as Jake's.
Jake lives in the same street as Susie.
Susie hasn't got so/as many children as Jake.
Jake speaks the same languages as Susie.
Jake's French is as good as Susie's, but he doesn't speak German so/as well as her.
Jake doesn't read so/as much as Susie.
- 2 1 as black as night 2 as flat as a pancake
3 as green as grass 4 as hard as iron
5 as old as the hills 6 as pretty as a picture
7 as quiet as a mouse / the grave
8 as red as a beetroot 9 as thin as a rake
10 as white as a sheet

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- 1 1 faster and faster 2 taller and taller
3 hotter and hotter 4 more and more difficult / harder and harder 5 fatter and fatter
6 more and more tired 7 more and more expensive
- 2 1 is getting harder and harder / more and more difficult
2 is getting better and better
3 are getting younger and younger
4 is getting worse and worse
5 is getting harder and harder / more and more difficult
6 is getting more and more boring
7 are getting more and more expensive
8 are getting longer and longer

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3 (possible answers)

- 1 The more; the less 2 The longer; the more
3 The warmer; the more 4 The more; the less
5 The more; the angrier 6 The faster; the louder
7 The more; the more 8 The older; the darker
(Other answers are possible)

4 (examples of possible answers)

The Amazon is much longer than the Thames.
The Atlantic is very much bigger than the Mediterranean.
A parrot is far more intelligent than a cat.
My mother is a little taller than my father.
Living in the country is a bit more boring than living in the city.
A horse is a lot bigger than a dog.
My teacher speaks English even better than my boss.
A computer is no more beautiful than a pen.
The Taj Mahal isn't any nearer to my home than the White House.

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- 1 1 of 2 in 3 of 4 in 5 in 6 in 7 of
8 of 9 in 10 of
- 2 1 Who is the youngest of your three sisters?
2 Which is the cheapest of these three jackets?
3 For a time, my grandfather was the most famous footballer in the country.
4 Cassie and Louise are the fastest swimmers in the team.
5 When I was a child, I was the tallest boy in my class.
6 For me, the early morning is the best time of the day.
7 Andy is very quiet, but he is the most interesting person in the group.

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- 1 1 as 2 like 3 as 4 as 5 like 6 like
7 as 8 like 9 like 10 As
- 2 1 so 2 so 3 such 4 such 5 such 6 so
7 so 8 such 9 such 10 so

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- 1 worse, worst cleaner, cleanest dirtier, dirtiest
more famous, most famous
farther, farthest OR further, furthest fitter, fittest
greener, greenest
happier, happiest lazier, laziest more modern, most modern
nicer, nicest redder, reddest shorter, shortest
slimmer, slimmest

sweeter, sweetest taller, tallest
thinner, thinnest
more tiring, most tiring whiter, whitest

- 2 1 as cold as ice 2 in the world 3 later
4 Correct. 5 The more I learn, the more I forget.
6 Correct. 7 warmer and warmer 8 The more money he has 9 Correct. 10 as you
11 Correct. 12 is nicest 13 as a tourist guide
14 Correct. 15 than
- 3 1 Is this box stronger than that one? Is it the strongest you've got?
2 Alistair is taller than anyone else in the team. He's the tallest in the team.
3 The state of Alaska is bigger than any of the other states. It's the biggest in the US.
4 This wine is more expensive than that one. It's the most expensive in the world.
5 Max's party was better than Rob's party. It was the best I've ever been to.
6 This job is worse than my last one. It's the worst I've ever had.

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- 4 1 The more ice cream he eats, the fatter he gets. And the fatter he gets, the more ice cream he eats.
2 The more he reads, the more he forgets. And the more he forgets, the more he reads.
3 The more she ignores him, the more he loves her. And the more he loves her, the more she ignores him.
4 The more shoes she buys, the more shoes she wants. And the more shoes she wants, the more shoes she buys.
5 The more money we spend, the more friends we have. And the more friends we have, the more money we spend.
6 The more I sleep, the more tired I am. And the more tired I am, the more I sleep.
- 5 1 tallest 2 longest 3 largest 4 longest
5 fastest 6 fastest 7 largest 8 longest
9 highest 10 smallest

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- 1 more boring, most boring brighter, brightest
cheaper, cheapest
cleaner, cleanest more distant, most distant
more exciting, most exciting
farther, farthest OR further, furthest fitter, fittest
funnier, funniest
more honest, most honest lazier, laziest
nicer, nicest
plainer, plainest safer, safest shorter, shortest
slimmer, slimmest
thinner, thinnest better, best wetter, wettest

In these answers, we usually give either contracted forms (for example *I'm, don't*) or full forms (for example *I am, do not*). Normally both are correct.

ANSWER KEY 363

- 2 1 eldest 2 than 3 the same as 4 further
5 the worst 6 an easier 7 best 8 as
9 the most 10 The more; the more

- 3 1 stranger than 2 in the world 3 Correct.
4 cheaper and cheaper 5 as usual
6 The more tired he gets 7 Correct. 8 further
9 Correct. 10 Correct. 11 as cold as ice
12 more and more bored 13 in the world
14 the most famous 15 Correct.

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- 1 The following words could come before '...she went home', and are conjunctions: although, and, as, because, before, if, or, since, so, that, unless, until, when, whether
- 2 1 After I've finished work, I'll come round to your place.
2 When the weather gets better, let's have a weekend in the country.
3 Before you go back to Canada, you ought to see Paula.
4 Not possible.
5 Although I didn't understand everything, I enjoyed the lecture.
6 Not possible.
- 3 1 after 2 - 3 - 4 or 5 that 6 so 7 - 8 unless

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- 1 1 have; will write 2 Will you stay; takes
3 arrive; will phone 4 get 5 will see; am
6 will open; stops 7 bring 8 will wait; have
9 finish; will have 10 will be; get
- 2 1 your brother is in England.
2 my father goes into hospital
3 the new car's ready
4 he goes back to work.

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- 1 1 as long as 2 until 3 so that 4 while
5 as if 6 until 7 as if 8 provided that
9 so that 10 Whereas
- 2 1 so that 2 as long as 3 so that
4 as long as 5 as long as 6 so that
- 3 1 While she's very clever, she's got no common sense at all.
2 While I know how you feel, I think you're making a mistake.
3 While the job's well paid, it's deadly boring.
4 While I'm interested in economics, I wouldn't want to work in a bank.

- 5 While the hotel was nice, it was a long way from the beach.

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- 4 1 He looks as if he's lost something.
2 She looks as if she's been painting.
3 He looks as if he's got a cold.
4 She looks as if she's had bad news.
5 He looks as if he's seen a ghost.
6 It looks as if it's going to rain.
7 He looks as if he's had good news.
- 5 1 Because of my unhappiness ...
2 In spite of her hunger ...
3 ... because of the heat.
4 ... because of the rain.
5 ... in spite of the cold.
6 ... because of my work.
7 In spite of his interest in the lesson, ...
8 ... because of my tiredness.
9 In spite of my thirst ...

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- 1 1 It's funny 2 Were you surprised 3 You knew
4 Did you know 5 I believe 6 He suggested
7 I'm glad 8 Tell me 9 I heard 10 I expect
- 2 1 provided that 2 so 3 Now 4 such ... that
5 so that 6 provided 7 Now that
8 provided 9 so 10 Now

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- 1 1 He speaks neither English nor French.
2 It was either Tuesday or Wednesday. ...
3 I neither like nor dislike her.
4 You're neither right nor wrong.
5 I both admire and distrust him.
6 He either lied to us or made a mistake. ...
7 Both Paul and Sally are on holiday.
8 Neither the secretary nor the accountant had the file.
9 The play was both funny and shocking.
10 He collects both paintings and jewellery.

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- 1 1 When I've finished my exams I'm going to sleep for a week.
2 I'll go shopping as soon as it's stopped raining.
3 After I've done the washing up I'm going to have a bath.
4 I'll phone Sally when I've found her number.
5 Let's wait here until Peter's arrived.
6 When I've finished the report I'll ask you to read it.