

# COMPARATIVES AND SUPERLATIVES

## 1.- COMPARATIVE

### \* EQUALITY:

(NOT) AS + ADJECTIVE + AS = tan .... como

My sister is as intelligent as him.

He is not as tall as Gasol.

The weather in Mexico is as hot as in Spain.

The weather in England is not as hot as in Spain.

### \* INFERIORITY:

LESS + ADJECTIVE + THAN = menos ...que

He is less tall than Gasol.

The weather in England is less hot than in Spain.

This exam is less difficult than the last one.

### \* SUPERIORITY:

1) Short adjectives: ADJECTIVE + er + THAN = más ... que

2) Long adjectives: MORE + ADJECTIVE + THAN = más ... que

He is taller than Gasol.

The weather in Spain is hotter than in England.

This exam is more difficult than the last one.

My sister is more intelligent than him.

## 2.- SUPERLATIVE

1) Short adjectives: THE + ADJECTIVE + est + (NOUN) + (IN /OF) = el /la más ...

2) Long adjectives: THE MOST + ADJECTIVE + (NOUN)+ (IN /OF) = el / la más ...

-The article " THE" normally appears before the superlative form. -The superlative form can be followed by a complement introduced by:

IN → When we refer to a PLACE OF → in the rest of cases.

Jack is the tallest in the class.

Laura is the most energetic girl of the group.

The Nile is the longest river in the world.

This is the best film I've ever seen.

This is the most boring film I've ever seen.

This is the most difficult exam I've done.

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### 3.- RULES TO USE “-ER / -EST or MORE / MOST”

**3.1.- ADJECTIVE + -ER /-EST** With adjectives of one syllable and adjectives of two syllables ending in -y /-er/ -ow. (pretty, friendly – clever – narrow)

SPELLING ADJECTIVE COMPARATIVE SUPERLATIVE		
Long	longer	the longest
Small	smaller	the smallest
Fast	faster	the fastest
High	higher	the highest
<b>DOUBLE CONSONANT</b>		
Big	bigger	the biggest
Thin	thinner	the thinnest
Slim	slimmer	the slimmest
Fat	fatter	the fattest
<b>Y → ier /iest</b>		
Easy	easier	the easiest
Busy	busier	the busiest
Pretty	prettier	the prettiest
Friendly	friendlier	the friendliest
Lucky	luckier	the luckiest

**E → r /st**

Nice                      nicer                      the nicest

Large                      larger                      the largest

wide                      wider                      the widest

**3.2.- MORE / MOST + ADJECTIVE With adjectives of two or more syllables**

**ADJECTIVE COMPARATIVE SUPERLATIVE**

Interesting              more interesting              the most interesting

Boring                      more boring                      the most boring

Intelligent              more intelligent              the most intelligent

Beautiful                      more beautiful                      the most beautiful

Famous                      more famous                      the most famous

Dangerous                      more dangerous                      the most dangerous

**4.- IRREGULAR FORMS**

**ADJECTIVE / \*WORD COMPARATIVE SUPERLATIVE**

Good better The best

Bad worse The worst

Far farther /further The farthest /furthest

\*well (adv) better The best

\*badly (adv) worse The worst

\*much/many/a lot of more The most

\*little less The least \*few fewer The fewest

I've got less money than she has.

There are fewer problems than there were before.

### EXERCISES

#### 1. WRITE THE CORRECT COMPARATIVE FOR THESE SENTENCES

1 The Mississippi's longer than the Thames. (long)

2 This hotel's more comfortable than the other one. (comfortable)

3 I think this shop is \_\_\_\_\_ that one. (good)

4 The restaurant is \_\_\_\_\_ the café. (expensive)

5 Simon's \_\_\_\_\_ Mark. (old)

6 I think Scotland is \_\_\_\_\_ England. (beautiful)

7 My brother's \_\_\_\_\_ I am. (young)

8 I like this school because it's \_\_\_\_\_ the other one. (big)

9 Accommodation here is \_\_\_\_\_ in my country. (expensive)

10 The weather here is \_\_\_\_\_ at home. (cold)

11 I think you're \_\_\_\_\_ your father now. (tall)

12 His homework was \_\_\_\_\_ mine, (bad)

13 This film is \_\_\_\_\_ the one you wanted to see.  
(interesting)

14 The journey is \_\_\_\_\_ I thought. (long) 15 This lesson is  
\_\_\_\_\_ the last one. (difficult)

## 2. WRITE THE CORRECT COMPARATIVE FOR THESE SENTENCES

1 He is more helpful than he used to be. (helpful)

2 It was slowly getting hotter and hotter (hot)

3 I had \_\_\_\_\_ time than T needed to finish the job.(little)

4 Peter gets \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ all the time  
(selfish)

5 You seem \_\_\_\_\_ you were yesterday (happy)

6 My chair was getting \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
(uncomfortable)

7 We need \_\_\_\_\_ actors for this film (young)

8 I think that the new salesman is \_\_\_\_\_ the last one.  
(honest)

9 This road is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the other  
one. (long/dangerous)

10 Is the new car \_\_\_\_\_ the old one? (expensive)

11 This system is \_\_\_\_\_ the last one we had. (easy) 12  
People here are \_\_\_\_\_ they are at home (polite) 13 The  
man was getting \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (angry)

14 The city is \_\_\_\_\_ it used to be. (crowded)

15 She was feeling \_\_\_\_\_ she had been earlier.  
(miserable)

16 Computers are \_\_\_\_\_ nowadays (complicated)

17 I think trains are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
cars (fast/comfortable)

18 We will have to think of a \_\_\_\_\_ method (good) 19 I'm  
beginning to feel \_\_\_\_\_ about the results. (hopeful)

20 She seems to be getting \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ (thin)

21 My new dictionary is a lot \_\_\_\_\_ the last one. (useful)

22 These trousers are too wide. Do you have any that are  
\_\_\_\_\_ ? (narrow)

23 \_\_\_\_\_ young people learn to play musical instruments  
than in the past (few)

24 The film got \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ until I fell  
asleep! (boring)

25 I think that people who live in villages are \_\_\_\_\_ people  
in big cities (friendly)

26 Her new job is a lot \_\_\_\_\_ the last one. (stressful)

### 3. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES USING THE COMPARATIVE FORM

1 It's hotter here than in London. (hot)

2 She's more imaginative than her brother. (imaginative)

3 He's \_\_\_\_\_ than all the other students. (old)

4 Do you think Pat is \_\_\_\_\_ than Brian? (intelligent)

5 This school is \_\_\_\_\_ than ours. (old-fashioned)

6 The computer was \_\_\_\_\_ than I thought. (expensive)

7 The rooms are \_\_\_\_\_ than they used to be. (clean)

8 He's \_\_\_\_\_ than he was a year ago. (healthy)

9 Do you think English is \_\_\_\_\_ than French. (difficult)

10 He eats a lot - he's getting \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (fat)

11 His face was getting \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (red)

12 He was \_\_\_\_\_ than I had ever seen him before. (angry)

13 Big cars are \_\_\_\_\_ than small ones. (comfortable)

14 My exam was \_\_\_\_\_ than I had thought. (bad)

15 The road becomes \_\_\_\_\_ after four or five miles.  
(narrow)

16 I'm sure I'll find New York \_\_\_\_\_ than Houston.  
(exciting)

17 I need to go to the doctor; this cough is getting \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ (bad)

18 He thinks Charlie Chaplin is \_\_\_\_\_ than Mr Bean. (funny)

19 Their ticket was \_\_\_\_\_ than mine because they flew on  
Sunday. (cheap)

20 My son is a lot \_\_\_\_\_ now that he's a teenager. (lazy)

#### 4. WRITE THE SUPERLATIVES OF THE WORDS GIVEN

1 This is the biggest building in the world, (big building)

2 This is \_\_\_\_\_ here. (comfortable chair)

3 He bought \_\_\_\_\_ in the shop. (expensive flowers)

4 I think she's \_\_\_\_\_ of the group. (good singer)

5 He's \_\_\_\_\_ of the company. (careful driver)

6 Who's \_\_\_\_\_ in the class? (old student)

7 It's \_\_\_\_\_ I've ever seen. (bad film)

8 She's \_\_\_\_\_ of all the students. (intelligent)

9 It was \_\_\_\_\_ I had ever heard. (beautiful music)

10 He's \_\_\_\_\_ of all the assistants. (helpful)

11 He's \_\_\_\_\_ in his class. (young)

12 This is \_\_\_\_\_ in the world. (poor country)

13 She's \_\_\_\_\_ I've ever met. (strange person)

14 I didn't answer \_\_\_\_\_ questions. (difficult)

15 Peter's \_\_\_\_\_ of them all. (old)

5. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES WITH AN ADJECTIVE

Boring comfortable dangerous deep difficult

independent old relaxing valuable

1 This summer is not as .hot.. as last summer.

2 I hope his new book is not as .boring...as his last one.

3 Flying is not as \_\_\_\_\_ as travelling by car.

4 Don't worry. The river isn't as \_\_\_\_\_ as it looks.

5 Silver isn't as \_\_\_\_\_ as gold.

6 Dogs aren't as \_\_\_\_\_ as cats.

7 Our new car is very fast, but it's not as \_\_\_\_\_ as the old one.

8 Do you think French is as \_\_\_\_\_ to learn as English?

9 Were you really born in 1980? I didn't realise you were as \_\_\_\_\_ as me.

10 For me, lying on the beach is not as \_\_\_\_\_ as walking in the mountains.

“TOO” AND “NOT...ENOUGH”

> The infinitive is often used after too + adjective, or not + adjective + enough.

It's too cold to swim today. (We can't swim today - it's too cold.)

It isn't warm enough to go to the beach. (We can't go to the beach – it's not warm enough.)

> the + comparative ....., the + comparative .... = Cuanto más ....., más ...

The more you eat, the fatter you get (Cuanto más comes, más gordo te pones)

The more I think, the less I know (Cuanto más pienso, menos entiendo)

The later you arrive, the better the food is (Cuanto más tarde llegas, mejor la comida)

6. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES WITH “TOO” OR “NOT...ENOUGH”

1 I can't walk any further - I'm ..too tired... (tired)

2 I'm sorry. You're not old enough to see this film. (old)

3 It's \_\_\_\_\_ to work here. Let's go to the library. (noisy)

4 John was \_\_\_\_\_ to get into the swimming team. (fast)

5 Your handwriting is \_\_\_\_\_ to read. (small)

6 I'm afraid we can't buy that computer. It's \_\_\_\_\_  
(expensive)

7 I don't think George should get the new job - he's \_\_\_\_\_  
(efficient)

8 Those jeans are \_\_\_\_\_ to wear to the party. (dirty)

9 We couldn't talk to each other in the pub; the music was  
\_\_\_\_\_ (loud)

10 Can you help me with this bottle? I'm to \_\_\_\_\_ open it.  
(strong)

#### 7. COMPARATIVE OR SUPERLATIVE??

1 We've got (big) problems to worry about

2 Which is (high) mountains in the world?

3 Is it much (cold) in New York?

4 Those were (happy) days of my childhood

5 You're (lucky) person in the world

6 You're (lucky) than I am

7 And then, (unbelievable) thing happened

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8 She was much (fat) the last time I saw her

9 The film was (boring) than I expected

10 These are too large, Do you have any (small) ones?

11 Was she (young) girl in the group?

12 He is (lazy) now than he ever was

13 That is (expensive) picture in the shop

14 He was driving (fast) than usual

15 I worked (hard) than John

16 It probably takes (long) than an hour

17 This is the (bad) thing that could ever happen to me

18 My (old) sister is a doctor

19 It's (bad) than I thought

20 It's (cold) today than it was yesterday

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