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Comparatives are used to compare two things and to highlight the superiority, inferiority or equality of one term to another.

SUPERIORITY	EQUALITY	Inferiority
a) short adjectives:  adjective + -ER THAN Example: Peter is taller than Sandra. b) Long adjectives:  MORE + adjective + THEN Example: A Ferrari is more expensive than a Mini.	short and long adjectives:  AS + adjective + AS Example: English is as easy as German.	short and long adjective:  LESS+adj + THAN  Example: July is less  cold than January.

<sup>\*</sup> short adjectives: are 1-syllable adjectives and 2-syllable adjectives ending in -y (ex: pretty).

## Orthographic changes:

- If the adjective ends in "y" the "y" becomes "i": heavy- heavier.
- If the adjective ends in "e" only an "r" is needed: wise-wiser.
- If the adjective ends with a "single vowel + consonant" the consonant is doubled and you add "er": big-bigger.

#### Irregular forms:

These adjectives and adverbs have irregular comparative forms.

- Good/well-better. Example: the garden looks better now.
- Bad/badly- worse. Example: is your teacher better? No, she is worse.
- Far/ further. Example: It's a long walk form here to the station. Further than I think.
- \* further= can also mean "more" or "additional". Example: for further information check the website.

**Exercise 1.** Complete the sentences using a comparative form.

<sup>\*</sup> long adjectives: all the other adjectives.

- 1. It's too noisy here. Can we go somewhere (quiet) <u>quieter</u>?
- 2. The coffee is very weak. I like it a bit (stron ) stroner\_.
- 3. The hotel is surprisingly big. I expected it to be (small) smaller
- 4. The hotel is surprisingly cheap. I expected it to be (expensive) expensiver.
- 5. The weather is too cold in this country. I'd like to live somewhere (warm) warmer
- 6. My job is a bit boring sometimes. I'd like to do something (exciting) excitinger
- 7. I'm surprised how easy it is to use the computer. I thought it would be (difficult) diffuculter.
- 8. Your work isn't very good. I'm sure you can do (good) gooder.
- 9. Don't worry. The situation isn't so bad. It could be (bad) bader.
- 10. I'm surprised we got here so quickly. I expected the journey to take (long) longer.
- 11. You're talking very loudly. Can you speak a bit (quietly) quietlyer?
- 12. You're standing too near the camera. Can you move a bit (far) farer away?
- 13. You were a bit depressed but you look (happy) happier today.

### **Exercise 2.** Complete the sentences using as...as.

- 1. I'm quite tall but you are taller. I'm not <u>as tall as</u> you.
- 2. My salary is high but yours is higher. My salary isn't as high as yours.
- 3. You know a bit about cars but I know more. You don't know as much about cars as I do.
- 4. I'm very nervous but you are more. I'm not as nervous as you.
- 5. I feel tired and you too. I'm as tired as you.

#### **Exercise 3.** Rewrite these sentences so that they have the same meaning.

- 1. Jack is younger than he looks. Jack isn't as old as he looks.
- 2. I don't spend as much money as you. You don't spend as much money as you seem to.
- 3. The station is nearer than I thought. The station isn't The station is not as far away as it seems.
- 4. The meal doesn't cost as much as I expected. The meal it's not as expensive as it seems
- 5. I go out less than before. I don't I don't as before
- 6. Her hair isn't as long as it was. She has

**Exercise 4.** Write the adjectives in brackets in the comparative form.

- 1. John Lennon was (old) <u>as older as</u> Paul McCartney.
- 2. Some people think the Met is (good) are as good the Louvre.
- 3. Eric was (afraid) \_so afraid \_ in Harlem \_as in the Subway.
- 4. Cats are (nice) as nice dogs.
- 5. Cartoons are (good) \_as good music programmers.
- 6. The Empire State is (big) as big he Chrysler Building.
- 7. Barcelona is (small) as small Madrid, but (big) as big Valencia.
- 8. Scotland is \_as cold \_ (cold) than the South of England.
- 9. I like cats they're as interesting (interesting) than dogs.
- 10. Charity shops are as cheap (cheap) than other shops.
- 11. Buy that MP3 player. It's as good (good) than the other one.
- 12. I spend a lot of time with Petra she's as friendly (friendly) than the other students.
- 13. In winter, Venice is as quiet (quiet) than in summer.
- 14. The maths exam was bad, but physics was even as bad (bad)!