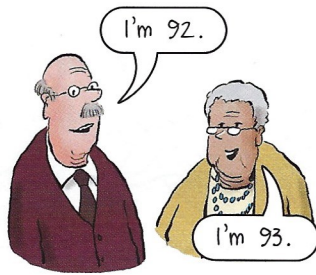
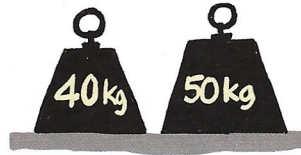


A



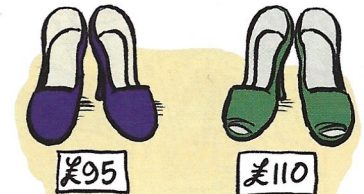
old

older



heavy

heavier



expensive

more expensive

Older / heavier / more expensive are *comparative* forms.

The comparative is **-er** (**older**) or **more ...** (**more expensive**).

B

older/heavier etc.

Short words (1 syllable) → **-er**:

old → **older**

slow → **slower**

cheap → **cheaper**

nice → **nicer**

late → **later**

big → **bigger**

Spelling (→ Appendix 5): big → **bigger** hot → **hotter** thin → **thinner**

Words ending in **-y** → **-ier**:

easy → **easier**

heavy → **heavier**

early → **earlier**

- Rome is **old**, but Athens is **older**. (*not* more old)
- Is it **cheaper** to go by car or by train? (*not* more cheap)
- Helen wants a **bigger** car.
- This coat is OK, but I think the other one is **nicer**.
- Don't take the bus. It's **easier** to take a taxi. (*not* more easy)

far → **further**:

- 'How far is it to the station? A mile?' 'No, it's **further**. About two miles.'

C

more ...

Long words (2/3/4 syllables) → **more ...** :

careful → **more careful**

polite → **more polite**

expensive → **more expensive**

interesting → **more interesting**

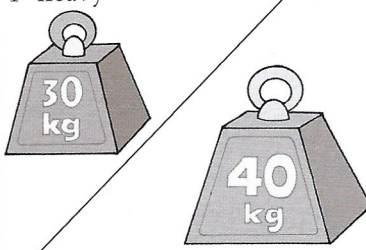
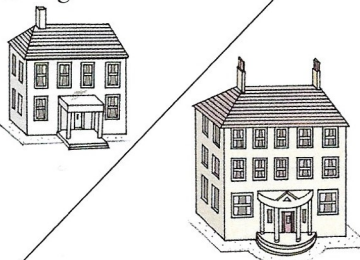
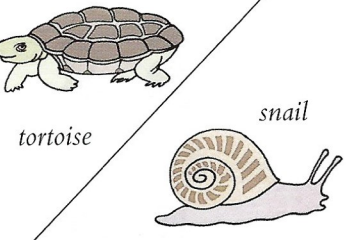
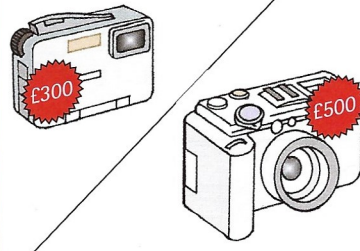
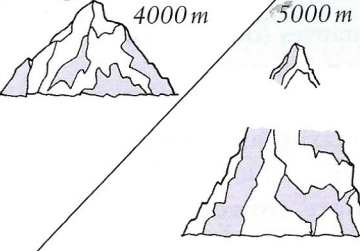
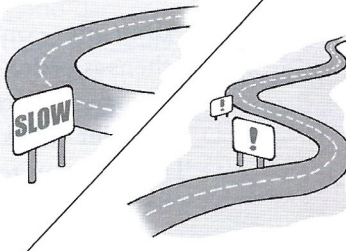
- You must be **more careful**.
- I don't like my job. I want to do something **more interesting**.
- Is it **more expensive** to go by car or by train?

D

good/well → **better** **bad** → **worse**

- The weather wasn't very **good** yesterday, but it's **better** today.
- 'Do you feel **better** today?' 'No, I feel **worse**.'
- Which is **worse** – a headache or a toothache?

87.1 Look at the pictures and write the comparative (older / more interesting etc.).

<p>1 heavy</p>  <p><i>heavier</i></p>	<p>2 big</p> 	<p>3 slow</p>  <p>tortoise snail</p>
<p>4 expensive</p> 	<p>5 high</p> 	<p>6 dangerous</p> 

87.2 Write the comparative.

- | | |
|--------------------|------------|
| 1 old <i>older</i> | 6 good |
| 2 strong | 7 large |
| 3 happy | 8 serious |
| 4 modern | 9 pretty |
| 5 important | 10 crowded |

87.3 Write the opposite.

- | | |
|------------------------|----------|
| 1 younger <i>older</i> | 4 better |
| 2 colder | 5 nearer |
| 3 cheaper | 6 easier |

87.4 Complete the sentences. Use a comparative.

- Helen's car isn't very big. She wants a *bigger* one.
- My job isn't very interesting. I want to do something *more interesting*.
- You're not very tall. Your brother is
- David doesn't work very hard. I work
- My chair isn't very comfortable. Yours is
- Your idea isn't very good. My idea is
- These flowers aren't very nice. The blue ones are
- My bag isn't very heavy. Your bag is
- I'm not very interested in art. I'm in history.
- It isn't very warm today. It was yesterday.
- These tomatoes don't taste very good. The other ones tasted
- Britain isn't very big. France is
- London isn't very beautiful. Paris is
- This knife isn't very sharp. Have you got a one?
- People today aren't very polite. In the past they were
- The weather isn't too bad today. Often it is much

older than ... more expensive than ...

A



She's **taller than** him.

Hotel Prices (per room per night)	
Europa Hotel	£140
Grand Hotel	£130
Royal Hotel	£125
tel	£110

The Europa Hotel is **more expensive than** the Grand.

We use **than** after comparatives (**older than ... / more expensive than ...** etc.):

- Athens is **older than** Rome.
- Are oranges **more expensive than** bananas?
- It's **easier** to take a taxi **than** to take the bus.
- 'How are you today?' 'Not bad. **Better than** yesterday.'
- The restaurant is **more crowded than** usual.

B

We usually say: than **me** / than **him** / than **her** / than **us** / than **them**.

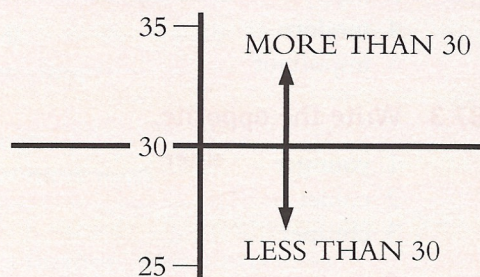
You can say:

- I can run faster **than him**. or I can run faster **than he can**.
- You are a better singer **than me**. or You are a better singer **than I am**.
- I got up earlier **than her**. or I got up earlier **than she did**.

C

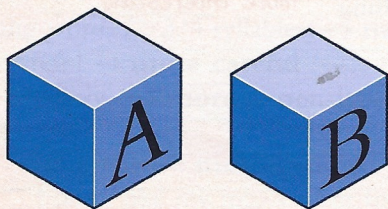
more/less than ...

- A: How much did your shoes cost? £50?
- B: No, **more than** that. (= **more than** £50)
- The film was very short – **less than** an hour.
- They've got **more money than** they need.
- You go out **more than** me.

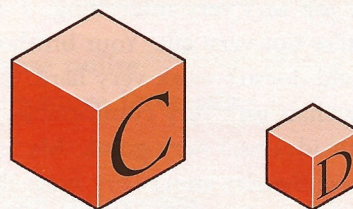


D

a bit older / much older etc.



Box A is **a bit bigger** than Box B.



Box C is **much bigger** than Box D.

a bit much	bigger	than ...
	older	
better		
more difficult		
	more expensive	

- Canada is **much bigger** than France.
- Sue is **a bit older** than Gary – she's 25 and he's 24.
- The hotel was **much more expensive** than I expected.
- You go out **much more** than me.

88.1 Write sentences about Liz and Ben. Use than.



Liz

- 1 I'm 26.
- 2 I'm not a very good swimmer.
- 3 I'm 1 metre 68 tall.
- 4 I start work at 8 o'clock.
- 5 I don't work very hard.
- 6 I haven't got much money.
- 7 I'm a very good driver.
- 8 I'm not very patient.
- 9 I'm not a very good dancer.
- 10 I'm very intelligent.
- 11 I speak French very well.
- 12 I don't go to the cinema very much.

Ben



- 1 I'm 24.
- 2 I'm a very good swimmer.
- 3 I'm 1 metre 63 tall.
- 4 I start work at 8.30.
- 5 I work very hard.
- 6 I've got a lot of money.
- 7 I'm not a very good driver.
- 8 I'm very patient.
- 9 I'm a good dancer.
- 10 I'm not very intelligent.
- 11 I don't speak French very well.
- 12 I go to the cinema a lot.

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1 Liz <u>is older than Ben</u> | 7 Liz is a |
| 2 Ben <u>is a better swimmer than Liz</u> | 8 Ben |
| 3 Liz is | 9 Ben |
| 4 Liz starts Ben. | 10 Liz |
| 5 Ben | 11 Liz |
| 6 Ben has got | 12 Ben |

88.2 Complete the sentences. Use than.

- 1 He isn't very tall. You're taller than him (OR taller than he is)
- 2 She isn't very old. You're
- 3 I don't work very hard. You work
- 4 He doesn't watch TV very much. You
- 5 I'm not a very good cook. You
- 6 We don't know many people. You
- 7 They haven't got much money. You
- 8 I can't run very fast. You can
- 9 She hasn't been here very long. You
- 10 They didn't get up very early. You
- 11 He wasn't very surprised. You

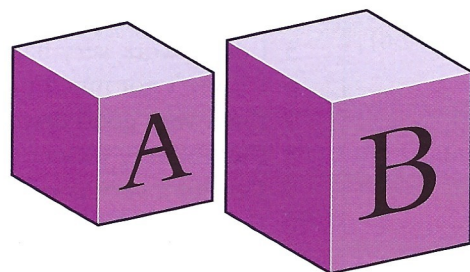
88.3 Complete the sentences with a bit or much + comparative (older/better etc.).

- 1 Emma is 25. Gary is 24½.
Emma is a bit older than Gary.
- 2 Jack's mother is 52. His father is 69.
Jack's mother
- 3 My camera cost £100. Yours cost £96.
My camera
- 4 Yesterday I felt terrible. Today I feel OK.
I feel
- 5 Today the temperature is 12 degrees. Yesterday it was 10 degrees.
It's
- 6 Sarah is an excellent tennis player. I'm not very good.
Sarah

not as ... as

A

not as ... as



She's old, but she's **not as old as** he is.

Box A **isn't as big as** Box B.

- Rome **is not as old as** Athens. (= Athens is **older**)
- The Grand Hotel **isn't as expensive as** the Europa. (= the Europa is **more expensive**)
- I **don't** play tennis **as often as** you. (= you play **more often**)
- The weather is better than it was yesterday. It **isn't as cold**. (= as cold **as it was yesterday**)

B

not as much as ... / not as many as ...

- I haven't got **as much money as** you. (= you've got **more money**)
- I don't know **as many people as** you. (= you know **more people**)
- I don't go out **as much as** you. (= you go out **more**)

C

Compare **not as ... as** and **than**:

- Rome is **not as old as** Athens.
Athens is **older than** Rome. (*not older as Rome*)
- Tennis **isn't as popular as** football.
Football is **more popular than** tennis.
- I **don't** go out **as much as** you.
You go out **more than me**.

D

We usually say: as **me** / as **him** / as **her** etc.

You can say:

- She's not as old **as him**. *or* She's not as old **as he is**.
- You don't work as hard **as me**. *or* You don't work as hard **as I do**.

E

We say **the same as ...** :

- The weather today is **the same as** yesterday.
- My hair is **the same colour as** yours.
- I arrived at **the same time as** Tim.

89.1 Look at the pictures and write sentences about A, B and C.

<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>

- A is bigger than C, but not as big as B.
- A is B, but not C.
- C is A, but
- A is, but
- B has got
- C works

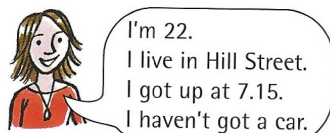
89.2 Write sentences with as ... as ...

- Athens is older than Rome. Rome isn't as old as Athens.
- My room is bigger than yours. Your room isn't
- You got up earlier than me. I didn't
- We played better than them. They
- I've been here longer than you. You
- She's more nervous than him. He

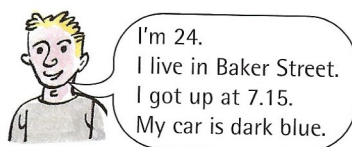
89.3 Write as or than.

- Athens is older than Rome.
- I don't watch TV as much you.
- You eat more me.
- I'm more tired today I was yesterday.
- Joe isn't as intelligent he thinks.
- Belgium is smaller Switzerland.
- Brazil isn't as big Canada.
- I can't wait longer an hour.

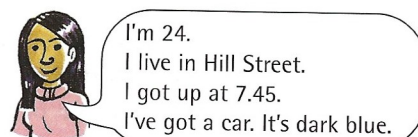
89.4 Complete the sentences about Julia, Andy and Laura. Use the same age / the same street etc.



Julia



Andy

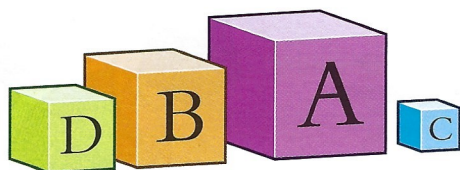


Laura

- (age) Andy is the same age as Laura.
- (street) Julia lives
- (time) Julia got up
- (colour) Andy's

the oldest the most expensive

A



Box A is **bigger than** Box B.

Box A is **bigger than** all the other boxes.

Box A is **the biggest** box.

HOTEL PRICES IN KINTON

(Per room per night)

Europa Hotel	£140	Grosvenor	£100
Grand Hotel	£125	Bennets	£90
Royal	£120	Carlton	£85
Astoria	£115	Star	£75
Palace	£110	Station	£75

The Europa Hotel is **more expensive than** the Grand.

The Europa Hotel is **more expensive than** all the other hotels in the city.

The Europa Hotel is **the most expensive** hotel in the city.

Bigger / older / more expensive etc. are *comparative* forms (→ Unit 87).

Biggest / oldest / most expensive etc. are *superlative* forms.

B

The superlative form is **-est (oldest)** or **most ... (most expensive)**.

Short words (**old/cheap/nice** etc.) → **the -est**:

old → **the oldest** cheap → **the cheapest** nice → **the nicest**
but good → **the best** bad → **the worst**

Spelling (→ Appendix 5): big → the biggest hot → the hottest

Words ending in **-y (easy/heavy** etc.) → **the -iest**:

easy → **the easiest** heavy → **the heaviest** pretty → **the prettiest**

Long words (**careful/expensive/interesting** etc.) → **the most ...** :

careful → **the most careful** interesting → **the most interesting**

C

We say **the oldest ... / the most expensive ...** etc. (with **the**):

- The church is very old. It's **the oldest** building in the town.
(= it is **older than** all the other buildings)
- What is **the longest** river in the world?
- Money is important, but it isn't **the most important** thing in life.
- Excuse me, where is **the nearest** bank?

D

You can use **the oldest / the best / the most expensive** etc. without a noun:

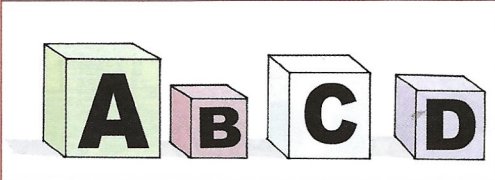
- Ken is a good player, but he isn't **the best** in the team.
(**the best** = the best player)

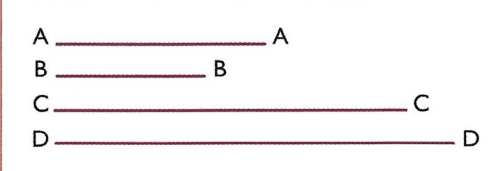
E

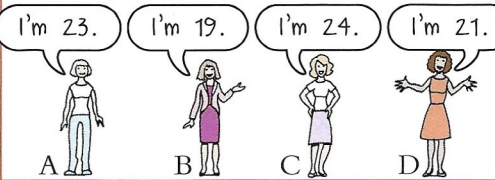
You can use *superlative* + **I've ever ... / you've ever ...** etc. :

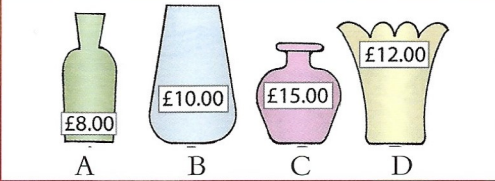
- The film was very bad. I think it's **the worst** film **I've ever seen**.
- What is **the most unusual** thing **you've ever done**?

90.1 Write sentences with comparatives (older etc.) and superlatives (the oldest etc.).

1 

2 

3 

4 

5

RESTAURANT A	<i>excellent</i>
RESTAURANT B	<i>not bad</i>
RESTAURANT C	<i>good but not wonderful</i>
RESTAURANT D	<i>awful</i>

big/small

(A/D) *A is bigger than D.*

(A) *A is the biggest.*

(B) *B is the smallest.*

long/short

(C/A) C is A.

(D) D is

(B) B

young/old

(D/C) D

(B)

(C)

expensive/cheap

(D/A)

(C)

(A)

good/bad

(A/C)

(A)

(D)

90.2 Complete the sentences. Use a superlative (the oldest etc.).

- This building is very old. It's *the oldest building* in the town.
- It was a very happy day. It was of my life.
- It's a very good film. It's I've ever seen.
- She's a very popular singer. She's in the country.
- It was a very bad mistake. It was I've ever made.
- It's a very pretty village. It's I've ever seen.
- It was a very cold day. It was of the year.
- He's a very boring person. He's I've ever met.

90.3 Write sentences with a superlative (the longest etc.). Choose from the boxes.

Sydney	Alaska	high	country	river	Africa	South America
Everest	the Nile	large	city	state	Australia	the world
Brazil	Jupiter	long	mountain	planet	the USA	the solar system

- Sydney is the largest city in Australia.*
- Everest
-
-
-
-