

1 READING & SPEAKING

a Look at the questionnaire. In pairs, ask and answer the questions. Answer with *often*, *sometimes*, or *never*.

HOW FAST IS YOUR LIFE?

- 1 Do people tell you that you talk too quickly?
- 2 Do you get impatient when other people are talking?
- 3 Are you the first person to finish your food at meal times?
- 4 When you are walking along a street, do you feel frustrated when you are behind people who are walking more slowly?
- 5 Do you get irritable if you sit for an hour without doing anything, e.g., waiting for the doctor?
- 6 Do you walk out of stores and restaurants if there is a line?

b **Communication** How fast is your life? p.109
Read the results. Do you agree?

c Read the article. What is the main reason why life is faster today?

d In **two minutes** find the answers to questions 1–8 in the article.

- 1 How do we feel when things don't happen immediately?
- 2 What has changed the way we meet people?
- 3 How much faster are we walking than in the past?
- 4 How many Google searches are made every hour?
- 5 How many people decide not to go back to a web page if it takes more than ten seconds to load?
- 6 What do half of Americans do after waiting on hold for more than a minute?
- 7 What do 90 percent of Americans do when they drink hot coffee or tea?
- 8 Which activity do they find more annoying, waiting for a replacement credit card or for a shopping delivery?

e Underline five technology words in the article.

f Answer the questions with a partner.

- 1 Do you think the statistics are true in your country?
- 2 Which of the "time-wasting" activities annoys you the most? Why?
- 3 Do you think it's a good thing that life is getting faster? Why (not)?

I WANT IT, AND I WANT IT NOW! Why are we so impatient?

Tuesday Oct 22 6:00 am

Whatever happened to patience?

We don't like waiting for things anymore. With faster broadband, instant searches, and immediate downloads, we expect things to happen immediately, and if they don't, we get impatient.

Fast-food restaurants have changed the way we eat. The growth of cell phone apps like Tinder has changed the way we meet new people. We don't need to wait a week to see the next episode of a TV show. We can download it on Netflix. We are even walking 10% faster than 20 years ago, and talking more quickly. Everything is getting faster, but is it getting better? That depends on how fast you like to live.



More than
125m
Google searches are
made every hour.



50% of users leave a web
page that doesn't load
in ten seconds. Three
out of five people don't
return to that site.



1/2 of Americans hang up
the phone if they have to
wait more than a minute
on hold



9/10
Americans drink
extremely hot
coffee or tea
that burns their
mouth instead
of waiting for
it to cool
down.

**Five of the most hated
time-wasting activities are (in order):**

- 1 waiting to be connected on the phone
- 2 waiting for a replacement credit card
- 3 waiting for a shopping delivery
- 4 waiting for a delayed flight
- 5 being stuck in traffic

2 VOCABULARY types of numbers

- a Look at the green numbers in the top row of the infographic in 1c. How do you say them?
- b 5.1 Listen and check.
- c How do you say these numbers and dates?

184 3,025 2,500 May 25th \$6,000,000 75% $\frac{2}{3}$ 9.2

- d 5.2 Listen and check.
- e 5.3 Listen and write the numbers.

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- f Answer the questions with a partner.

- When's your birthday?
- What's the number of your house or building?
- What's the population of your town or city?
- What's the average price of buying or renting a two-bedroom apartment there?
- What percentage of the day do you usually spend working or studying?

Saying approximate numbers
about 500 at least 12 a day between 2,000 and 3,000

3 GRAMMAR & PRONUNCIATION

comparative adjectives and adverbs, *as...as*; /ə/

- a Look at the **highlighted** words in the sentences. Are they adjectives or adverbs?
- My husband's life is very **busy**, and he's sometimes **stressed**.
 - My sister walks and talks very **quickly**.
 - Some young people eat a lot of **fast** food.
 - If things don't happen as **fast** as I want them to, I get **impatient**.
 - Some people don't think living faster is a **bad** thing.
 - I think in general I live **well**.
- b the correct form.
- Life is *faster* / *more fast* than before.
 - Traffic in cities is *more bad* / *worse* than it was.
 - Everybody is *busyer* / *busier* than they were five years ago.
 - We are *more stressed* / *stresseder* than our grandparents were.
 - We do everything *more quickly* / *quicklier*.
 - People aren't as *patient as* / *as patient than* they were before.
- c p.134 Grammar Bank 5A
- d 5.6 Listen and repeat the sentences. Copy the rhythm and try to get the /ə/ sound right.

The /ə/ sound
Remember! Unstressed words like *a*, *as*, and *than* have the /ə/ sound, and -er is pronounced /ər/.

4 LISTENING & SPEAKING

- a 5.7 Look at question 1 below. Listen to five people talking about five different things. What are they talking about? Write the numbers of the speakers next to the topics.

HOW HAS YOUR LIFE CHANGED OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS?

- 1 Do you spend more or less time...? Why?

- ☐ working or studying
- ☐ getting to work, college, or school
- ☐ sitting in traffic
- ☐ talking on the phone
- ☐ seeing friends
- ☐ online
- ☐ sleeping
- ☐ cooking
- ☐ shopping
- ☐ using your computer

- 2 Do you have more or less free time? Why?

- 3 What don't you have time for nowadays? What would you like to have more time for?

- b 5.8 Listen again and check. Then answer the questions with the number of the speaker. Who...?

- a ☐ spends the same time on something as before, but divides his / her time differently
- b ☐ spends more time doing something online
- c ☐ spends less time on something because of not living in the city now
- d ☐ spends more time on something because it's good for him / her
- e ☐ spends more time on something because of living with his / her partner

- c Answer questions 1–3 in a in small groups. Whose life has changed the most?

I spend more time studying than before because I'm in my last year of college and we have our final exams at the end of the semester.

5A comparatives

adjectives

- 1 I'm **busier than** I was five years ago.
People are **more impatient** today **than** in the past.
- 2 I'm **less relaxed** this year **than** I was last year.
- 3 The service in this restaurant isn't **as good as** it was.

5.4

- To compare two people, places, or things we use:
 - 1 comparative adjectives.
 - 2 *less* + adjective.
 - 3 *(not) as* + adjective + *as*.

comparative adjectives

short	shorter	one syllable: + -er
hot	hotter	one vowel + one consonant: double final consonant
stressed	more stressed	one syllable adjectives ending in -ed: <i>more</i> + adjective
busy	busier	two syllable adjectives ending in consonant + -y: <i>y</i> + -ier
relaxed	more relaxed	two or more syllables: <i>more</i> + adjective
good	better	irregular
bad	worse	irregular
far	farther / further	irregular

adverbs

- 1 People walk **more quickly than** in the past.
- 2 My brother speaks French, but **less fluently** than me.
- 3 She doesn't drive **as fast as** her brother.

5.5

- To compare two actions we use:
 - 1 comparative adverbs.
 - 2 *less* + adverb.
 - 3 *(not) as* + adverb + *as*.

comparative adverbs

quickly	more quickly	adverbs ending in -ly: <i>more</i> + adverb
fast	faster	irregular
hard	harder	irregular
well	better	irregular
badly	worse	irregular

Comparatives with pronouns

After comparative + *than* or *as...as*, we use an object pronoun (*me, her*, etc.) or a subject pronoun + auxiliary verb, e.g.,
*My brother's taller than **me**.* *My brother's taller than **I am**.*
*He's not as intelligent as **her**.* *He's not as intelligent as **she is**.*

5B superlatives

- 1 Tokyo is **the cleanest** city in the world.
Mexico is one of **the most popular** vacation destinations.
Camping is **the least expensive** way to go on vacation.
- 2 It's **the most beautiful** city **I've ever been to**.
It's **the best** movie **I've seen** this year.

5.12

- 1 We use *the* + superlative adjectives to say which is the biggest, etc., in a group.
- After superlatives we use *in* + names of places or singular words for groups of people, e.g.,
*It's **the noisiest** city **in** the world. Ann's **the oldest** **in** the class.*
- We can also use *the least* + adjective, e.g., *the least expensive* OR *the cheapest*.

- 2 We often use *the* + superlative with the present perfect + *ever*.

adjective	comparative	superlative
cold	colder	the coldest
thin	thinner	the thinnest
healthy	healthier	the healthiest
beautiful	more beautiful	the most beautiful
good	better	the best
bad	worse	the worst
far	farther / further	the farthest / the furthest

5C quantifiers

too much, too many, too

- 1 I'm very stressed today. I have **too much** work.
My boss talks **too much**.
- 2 My diet is unhealthy. I eat **too many** cookies.
- 3 I don't want to go out tonight. I'm **too** tired.

5.17

- We use *too much, too many, too* to say "more than is good."
 - 1 Use *too much* + uncountable noun (e.g., *coffee, time*) or after a verb.
 - 2 Use *too many* + countable noun (e.g., *cookies, people*).
 - 3 Use *too* + an adjective **NOT** *I'm too much tired*.

(not) enough

- 1 Do you eat **enough** vegetables?
I don't drink **enough** water.
- 2 Jane doesn't sleep **enough**. She's always tired.
- 3 Our refrigerator isn't big **enough** for a family of five.
I don't go to bed early **enough** during the week.

5.18

- 1 Use *enough* before a noun to mean "all that is necessary."
- 2 Use *enough* after a verb with no object.
- 3 Use *enough* after an adjective or adverb.

5A

a Write sentences with a comparative adjective or adverb + *than*.

New York is more expensive than Miami. (expensive)

- 1 Modern computers are much _____ the early ones. (fast)
- 2 My sister is _____ me. (short)
- 3 This exercise is _____ the last one. (easy)
- 4 San Francisco is _____ from Los Angeles _____ San Diego. (far)
- 5 I thought the third *Men in Black* movie was _____ the first two. (bad)
- 6 Manchester United played _____ Arsenal. (good)
- 7 I'm _____ this year _____ I was last year. (stressed)
- 8 I'm working _____ this year _____ last year. (hard)
- 9 The new airport is _____ the old one. (big)
- 10 I'm not lazy. I just work _____ you! (slowly)

b Rewrite the sentences so they mean the same. Use *as...as*.

Luke is stronger than Peter.

Peter isn't as strong as Luke.



- 1 Adam is shorter than Jerry.
Jerry isn't _____ Adam.
- 2 Your bag is nicer than mine.
My bag isn't _____ yours.
- 3 Tokyo is bigger than London.
London isn't _____ Tokyo.
- 4 Tennis is more popular than volleyball.
Volleyball isn't _____ tennis.
- 5 Children learn languages faster than adults.
Adults don't _____ children.
- 6 I work harder than you.
You don't _____ me.
- 7 The Lakers played better than the Knicks.
The Knicks didn't _____ the Lakers.

← p.39

5B

a Complete the sentences with a superlative.

Is Shanghai the biggest city in the world? (big)

- 1 This are _____ people I've ever met. (generous)
- 2 Yesterday was _____ day of the year. (hot)
- 3 Early morning is _____ time to drive to the city. (bad)
- 4 She's _____ girl at school. (friendly)
- 5 This is _____ part of the exam. (important)
- 6 _____ time to visit New England is the fall. (good)
- 7 Delhi in India is one of _____ cities in the world. (polluted)
- 8 _____ I've ever flown is to Bali. (far)
- 9 It was _____ movie I've ever seen. (funny)
- 10 Rob's daughters are all pretty, but I think Emily is _____. (pretty)

b Write sentences with a superlative + *ever* + the present perfect.

It / good movie / I / see

It's the best movie I've ever seen.

- 1 It / windy place / I / be to
- 2 She / unfriendly person / I / meet
- 3 It / easy exam / we / take
- 4 They / expensive pants / I / buy
- 5 This / long book / I / read
- 6 He / attractive man / I / see
- 7 It / bad meal / I / eat
- 8 He / interesting teacher / we / have
- 9 It / exciting job / I / do

← p.40

5C

a Circle the correct form.

How much / many coffee do you drink?

- 1 I eat too / too much chocolate.
- 2 I eat too much / too many potato chips.
- 3 Do you drink enough water / water enough?
- 4 I can't come. I'm too busy / too much busy.
- 5 This suitcase isn't enough big / big enough.
- 6 I worry too much / too many.
- 7 You're always at home! You don't enough go out / go out enough.
- 8 I don't eat enough vegetables / vegetables enough.

b Complete the sentences with *too*, *too much*, *too many*, or *enough*.

You eat too much red meat. It isn't good for you.

- 1 I'm not in shape. I don't exercise _____.
- 2 I can't walk to school. It's _____ far.
- 3 There are _____ cars on the freeways today.
- 4 I spend _____ time on the computer. It gives me headaches.
- 5 I don't read _____ – only five or six books a year.
- 6 I didn't buy the coat because it was _____ expensive.
- 7 There were _____ people at the party, so it was impossible to dance.
- 8 I don't like watching movies on my phone because the screen isn't big _____.

← p.43