**Comparatives: Activity 1**

Read Grammar Bank 5A. Then complete the sentences with a comparative adjective or adverb + *than*. Listen and check.

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| Grammar Bank  **5A** comparatives  **adjectives**  EXAMPLES  **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.  FORM   * To compare two people, places or things we use:   **1** comparative adjectives.  **2** *less* + adjective.  **3** (not) *as* + adjective + *as*.  SPELLING RULES: COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES   * one-syllable adjectives: + -*er*, e.g., *short****er****.* * adjectives ending in one vowel + one consonant: double consonant +  -*er,*e.g., *hot****ter***. * two-syllable adjectives ending in consonant + *y*: change *y* to *i* + -*er,*e.g., *bus****ier****.* * one-syllable adjectives ending in -*ed*: *more* + adjective, e.g., ***more****stressed.* * two- or more syllable adjectives: *more* + adjective, e.g., ***more****famous,****more****expensive*. * irregular: *good →****better***; *bad →****worse***; *far →* ***farther/ further***.   **adverbs**  EXAMPLES  **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.  FORM   * To compare two actions we use:   **1** comparative adverbs.  **2** *less* + adverb.  **3** (not) *as* + adverb + *as*.  SPELLING RULES: COMPARATIVE ADVERBS   * adverbs ending in -*ly*: *more* + adverbs, e.g., ***more****quickly.* * irregular: *fast* → ***faster***; *hard* → ***harder***; *well →****better***; *badly →****worse***. |

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| 1.  My sister is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than me. (short)  2.  This exercise is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than the last one. (easy)  3.  Los Angeles is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from Portland than San Francisco. (far)  4.  Modern computers are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than the earlier ones. (fast)  5.  The Boston Red Sox played \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than the New York Yankees. (well)  6.  New York is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than Miami. (expensive)  7.  I'm not lazy – I just work \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than you. (slowly)  8.  I'm studying \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ this year than last year. (hard) |  |

**Comparatives: Activity 2**

Read Grammar Bank 5A. Then rewrite the sentences with the same adjective or verb so they mean the same. Use contractions and *as* ... *as*. Then listen and check.

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| Grammar Bank  **5A** comparatives  **adjectives**  EXAMPLES  **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.  FORM   * To compare two people, places or things we use:   **1** comparative adjectives.  **2** *less* + adjective.  **3** (not) *as* + adjective + *as*.  SPELLING RULES: COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES   * one-syllable adjectives: + -*er*, e.g., *short****er****.* * adjectives ending in one vowel + one consonant: double consonant +  -*er,*e.g., *hot****ter***. * two-syllable adjectives ending in consonant + *y*: change *y* to *i* + -*er,*e.g., *bus****ier****.* * one-syllable adjectives ending in -*ed*: *more* + adjective, e.g., ***more****stressed.* * two- or more syllable adjectives: *more* + adjective, e.g., ***more****famous,****more****expensive*. * irregular: *good →****better***; *bad →****worse***; *far →****farther/ further***.   **adverbs**  EXAMPLES  **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.  FORM   * To compare two actions we use:   **1** comparative adverbs.  **2** *less* + adverb.  **3** (not) *as* + adverb + *as*.  SPELLING RULES: COMPARATIVE ADVERBS   * adverbs ending in -*ly*: *more* + adverbs, e.g., ***more****quickly.* * irregular: *fast* → ***faster***; *hard* → ***harder***; *well →****better***; *badly →****worse***. |

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| **1.**  Lee is stronger than Paulo.      Paulo \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lee. **2.** Adam is shorter than Juan.      Juan \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Adam. **3.**  Your bag is nicer than mine.      My bag \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ yours. **4.** Tokyo is bigger than London.      London \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Tokyo. **5.** Tennis is more popular than volleyball.      Volleyball \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ tennis. **6.**  Children learn languages faster than adults.      Adults \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ children. **7.** I work harder than you.      You \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ me. **8.** England played better than the US.      The US \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ England. |  |

**Types of numbers: Activity 1**

How do we pronounce the numbers and dates? Choose the correct options. Then listen and check.

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| 1.  184    a hundred eight four / a hundred and eighty-four  2.  3,025    three thousand and twenty-five / three thousands and twenty-five  3.  2,500   two thousand five hundred / two thousand and five hundred  4.  May 25th    May twenty-fifth / twenty-five May  5.  $6,000,000    six million dollars / six millions of dollars  6.  75%    a seventy-five per cent / seventy-five per cent  7.  2/3    two threes / two-thirds  8.  9.2   nine point two / nine dot two |  |

**Types of numbers: Activity 2**

Write the numbers and dates in words. Then listen and check.

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| **1.  A**  What's your address?     **B**  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (213) Station Road. **2.**  **A**  When's your birthday?      **B**  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . (June 20th) **3.**  **A**  So how many people live here?      **B**  About \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (120,000) I think. **4.**  **A**  How much did the house cost?      **B**  A lot. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . (795,000)      **A**  Is that in pounds or dollars?     **B**  Dollars. **5.**  **A**  How much of your salary do you spend on rent?     **B**  Um, at least \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1/3) I think. **6.**  **A**  What percentage of your day do you spend working or studying?      **B**  I'm not sure. Between 60 and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (70%) maybe? |  |

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Choose the correct verb, *make* or *do*. Then listen and check.

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| 1.  Life is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ before. |  |
| 2.  Traffic in cities is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it was. |  |
| 3.  Everybody is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ they were five years ago. |  |
| 4.  We are more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our grandparents were. |  |
| 5.  We do everything \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . |  |
| 6.  People aren't \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ patient \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ they were before. |  |

**The fisherman and the banker: Activity 1**

Read and listen to the story. Then choose the correct answers.

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| **The fisherman and the banker**  A banker was on vacation abroad. He was walking on a beautiful beach near a small town. He saw a fisherman in his boat with a few fish in it.  “Great fish!” he said. “How long did it take you to catch them?”  “Not very long,” answered the fisherman.  “Why didn’t you stay in the ocean longer to catch some more?” asked the banker.  “There are just enough fish here to feed my family,” answered the fisherman.  Then the banker asked, “But what do you do the rest of the time?”  “I sleep late, I fish a little, I play with my kids, and I relax. In the evening, I go to see my friends in the town. We play the guitar. I’m busier than you think. Life here isn’t as…”  The banker interrupted him. “I have an MBA from Harvard University, and I can help you. You’re not fishing as much as you can. If you start fishing for longer periods of time, you’ll get enough money from selling the fish to buy a bigger boat. Then with the money you’ll get from catching and selling more fish, you could buy a second boat, and then a third one, and so on. Then instead of selling your fish to stores, you could sell them directly to a fish factory, or even open your own factory. Then you’ll be able to leave your little town for the city, and finally move to New York City, where you could run the company.”  “How long will that take?” asked the fisherman.  “About 15 to 20 years,” answered the banker.  “And then?”  “Then it gets more interesting,”said the banker, smiling and talking more quickly. “When the moment comes, you can put your company on the stock market, and you will make millions.”  “Millions? But then what?”  “Then you can retire, live in a small town by the ocean, go to the beach, sleep late, play with your kids…” |

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| * 1. The fisherman asked the banker for advice.   + True   + False   1. The banker gave the fisherman some advice.   + True   + False   1. The fisherman didn't need the banker's advice.   + True   + False |  |

**Sharing the housework: Activity 2**

Read the story again and choose the correct answers.

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| **The fisherman and the banker**  A banker was on vacation abroad. He was walking on a beautiful beach near a small town. He saw a fisherman in his boat with a few fish in it.  “Great fish!” he said. “How long did it take you to catch them?”  “Not very long,” answered the fisherman.  “Why didn’t you stay in the ocean longer to catch some more?” asked the banker.  “There are just enough fish here to feed my family,” answered the fisherman.  Then the banker asked, “But what do you do the rest of the time?”  “I sleep late, I fish a little, I play with my kids, and I relax. In the evening, I go to see my friends in the town. We play the guitar. I’m busier than you think. Life here isn’t as…”  The banker interrupted him. “I have an MBA from Harvard University, and I can help you. You’re not fishing as much as you can. If you start fishing for longer periods of time, you’ll get enough money from selling the fish to buy a bigger boat. Then with the money you’ll get from catching and selling more fish, you could buy a second boat, and then a third one, and so on. Then instead of selling your fish to stores, you could sell them directly to a fish factory, or even open your own factory. Then you’ll be able to leave your little town for the city, and finally move to New York City, where you could run the company.”  “How long will that take?” asked the fisherman.  “About 15 to 20 years,” answered the banker.  “And then?”  “Then it gets more interesting,”said the banker, smiling and talking more quickly. “When the moment comes, you can put your company on the stock market, and you will make millions.”  “Millions? But then what?”  “Then you can retire, live in a small town by the ocean, go to the beach, sleep late, play with your kids…” |  |

* 1. The banker \_\_\_\_\_\_ near the fisherman's town.
  + lived with his family
  + was staying
  + had friends
  1. The fisherman \_\_\_\_\_\_ fish.
  + didn't have any
  + didn't have many
  + had a lot of
  1. The banker thought the fisherman was \_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + lazy
  + hard-working
  + busy
  1. The banker explained how the fisherman could \_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + get a university degree
  + catch fish more quickly
  + become a company director
  1. For the banker, the most important thing in life is \_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + to be happy
  + to make money
  + to visit New York
  1. The most important thing for the fisherman is \_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + to be happy
  + to visit New York
  + to make money