

- 1 Look at the following extracts from a reading passage.
- a ... Miami Trip, a gentler ride designed to explore pleasure.
- **b** ... the thrill lab will help design more immersive rides and games ...

Identify the comparative adjectives in the two sentences then answer the question below.

1 What is added to the adjective to make a comparison in a? Can more be used instead? Why/Why not?

2 How is the comparative formed in b? Can it be formed by adding an ending to the adjective instead? Why/Why not?



# Read more about comparison in the Grammar reference

# Comparison

## A Comparative adjectives

## **1** One syllable adjectives

You form the comparative from adjectives with one syllable by adding -er. high – higher

For one-syllable adjectives ending in -e, you add -r. large – larger

For one-syllable adjectives ending in a consonant, you double the final consonant. big – bigger

## **2** Two or more syllable adjectives

You normally form the comparative from adjectives with two or more syllables with more/less.

exciting - more/less exciting.

## 3 Adjectives ending in consonant + -y

You form the comparative from adjectives ending in consonant + y, by changing -y to -idry – drier easy – easier Note some adjectives can be formed with -er or more/less. The river is shallower/more shallow here than over there. Theme parks with thrilling rides are becoming commoner/more common than in the past.

## **B** Superlative adjectives

## **1** One syllable adjectives

You form the superlative from adjectives with one syllable by using *the* before the adjective and adding -(e)st to the adjective. long – the longest

## 2 Two or more syllable adjectives

You form the superlative from adjectives with two or more syllables by adding the most/least before the adjective. interesting - the most/least interesting

## 3 Adjectives ending in consonant + -y

You form the superlative from adjectives ending in consonant +y, by changing -y to -i. dry – driest easy – the easiest



#### C Irregular comparatives and superlatives

Some common adjectives have an irregular comparative and superlative form. good – better – the best bad – worse – the worst far – farther/further – the farthest/the furthest She is a better player than he is. The performance of the team was worse than last time.

#### **D** Comparative adverbs

Like comparative adjectives, you form comparative adverbs by adding -(e)r to one syllable adverbs and using *more/less* with two or more syllable adverbs. Computer sales rose faster over the last decade compared to the previous one. Attendances at the cinema fell more dramatically in the first quarter than the second.

#### **E** Comparative structures

#### 1 than

You can make comparisons by using *than*. Sales were greater in 1980 than in 1990.

2 as + adjective + as to compare two equal things.
You can compare two equal things by using as + adjective + as.
I'm as tall as my sister.

3 not as + adjective + as to compare two things that are not equal.
You can compare two things that are not equal by using not as + adjective + as.
Computer sales weren't as high in June as they were in January.

#### F Words to strengthen or weaken comparisons

You can add words and expressions to strengthen or weaken comparisons.

#### **1** Comparatives

Words and expressions that can be added to comparatives include: *a bit, a little, slightly, much, (quite) a lot, far, significantly, considerably, a great deal, twice, three times.* Book sales rose much/a lot/far more slowly in the last quarter. The number of shoppers was a little lower last month compared to this month.

#### 2 Superlatives

Words and expressions that can be added to superlatives include: *by far, easily, a long way.* The Indian architect's building was by far the most popular in the competition. Sweden is the company's smallest market, by a long way.

#### 3 With *as* ... *as* ...

Words and expressions that can be added to modify the structure *as* ... *as* ... include: (*not*) *nearly*, *not quite*, *almost*, *just*, *half*, *twice*, *three times*.

The population of the town is three times as big as it was in 1960. The rest of the team were not nearly as good as the captain.

#### 2 Complete the table below.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative	
		the worst	
	better		
noisy			
wet			
tasty			
cheap			
lively			
appetising			

3 For 1-8 below, put the word in brackets into the correct comparative or superlative form.
1 People who do some physical activity are supposed to be (happy) than less active people.

2 It's much (easy) to find place to do specialist sports outside cities and towns.

- 3 With more people taking it up, professional bowling is far (popular) than it used to be.
- 4 Which sport do you think is (energetic) of all?
- 5 It is becoming (difficult) for people to organize their lives around work nowadays.
- 6 Is work the (stressful) aspect of modern life?
- 7 Is mental activity (important) than physical activity?
- 8 People don't realize that racing drivers are (fit) individuals in sport.



4 Work with your teacher. Look at sentences 1-8 in exercise 3. Decide what the noun form of each adjective is. Then decide which nouns can be used with these verbs.

have

need/require

enjoy

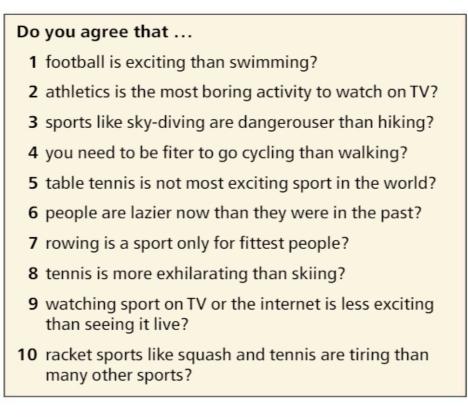
experience

5 Rewrite sentences 1-8 in exercise 3 using a noun instead of an adjective. You may need to use the verbs above and make any necessary changes.

Example:

People who do some physical activity are supposed to enjoy/have greater happiness than less active people.

#### 6 The questionnaire below contains some mistakes. Rewrite the questions that are incorrect.







7 With your teacher. Use the questionnaire to interview each other. Ask for reasons and examples. If you agree with a statement, put a check mark next to the question.

# Review

# 1

## Put the adjectives in brackets into the correct comparative or superlative form.



# 2

## Choose an appropriate ending to complete sentences 1-6.

	fitter	sadder popul	expensive ar	important better poj	more happy pularer	
1 As people seek more adventure, extreme sports are now definitely more						
2 Of all benefits from participating in any kind of sport, fitness is the most						
3 Walking is as good as any sporting activity if people want to be						
4 If we compare indoor and outdoor sports, I think the latter is much						
5 Even with the stresses of modern life, do you think people are happier or						
6 Do you think out of all sports motor racing is perhaps the most						

