

TITRE DE LA LEÇON : COMPARATIVES

Discipline : Anglais

Sous-discipline : Grammaire

Cycle : Lycée

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Niveau : Terminale D

I-Comparatives

We use the comparative to compare two things of the same nature. There are four main types of comparatives: the comparative of equality, inferiority, superiority and the double comparative.

1-The comparative of equality

... as + adjective + as ...

Examples: John is as tall as Peter.

Lingala is as easy as Kituba.

2-The comparative of inferiority

... less + adjective + than ...

Examples: Linda is less beautiful than Mary.

Walking is less dangerous than flying.

3- The comparative of superiority

3-1-Short adjectives

Some short adjectives: **cheap, good, big, pretty, polite, old, nice, long, great, short, tall, high, wide, fast, fat, thin, handsome ...**

a)-Regular comparatives

... adjective + er + than ...

Examples: Obi is taller than Bill.

Our classroom is larger than yours.

Notes:

- Adjectives ending in **y** preceded by a consonant change the **y** into **i** and add **er**:

Examples: Adjectives → Comparatives

Happy happier

Ugly uglier

Exception: shy → shyer

But: If **y** is preceded by a **vowel**, add only **er**:

Example: coy coyer

- Adjectives of one syllable ending in a consonant double the final consonant before adding **er**:

Examples: → big → bigger ; sad sadder

fat fatter ; wet wetter

hot hotter ; thin thinner

b)-Irregular comparatives

Adjectives/adverbs	—————>	<u>Comparatives</u>
Good/well		better
Bad/badly		worse
Little		less
Many/much		more
Far		farther/further
Old		older/elder

Examples: Messi plays better than Pogba.
Malaria is worse than AIDS.

3-2-Long adjectives

Some long adjectives: **necessary, difficult, interesting, expensive, wonderful, important, powerful, dangerous, famous, useful, populated, serious ...**

... more + adjective + than ...

Examples: Juliet is more beautiful than Liz.
Liz is more intelligent than Juliet.

4-The double comparative

4-1-The double comparative of inferiority

... less and less + adjective ...

Examples: The train moves less and less quick.
They were less and less impatient at the airport.

4-2-The double comparative of superiority

a)-Short adjectives

... adjective + er and adjective +

Examples: Salomon is getting taller and taller.
Days are getting shorter and shorter nowadays.

b)-Long adjectives

... more and more + adjective

Examples: Mary becomes more and more beautiful.
Food is getting more and more expensive these days.

Exercise one: Put the adjectives between brackets into the corresponding comparatives.

- 1-Peter is (handsome) Paul. (Comparative of superiority)
- 2-Kinshasa is (big) Brazzaville. (Comparative of superiority)
- 3-Maïva is (beautiful) Cynthia. (Comparative of equality)
- 4-Young people are getting (dangerous). (Double comp. of superiority)
- 5-Fish is (tasty) meat. (Comparative of inferiority)

Exercise two: Make comparison using the words in brackets. Add necessary changes to build correct sentences.

Example: (Kinshasa/ Brazzaville/ large) → *Kinshasa is larger than Brazzaville.*

2-(A Rolls Royce / a Ford/ expensive).

3-(Boys /girls / big / usually).

4-(Children /enthusiastic / about working / about going on holidays).

5-(eating hamburgers / healthy / vegetables).

6-(Killing / bad /stealing).