

# Comparatives without "than"

## Giving Suggestions

Materials developed by Katie Leite

### Class Demographics:

**Primary Skills:** Listening & Speaking

**Students:** Adults

**Type of Institution:** Adult Education, Continuing Education Program

**Proficiency Level:** High Beginner

**Length of Class Time:** 2 hours

**First Language Background:** Varied

**Suggested Follow-up Lesson:** The gerund form that occurs in the suggested action in these comparatives

## Comparatives: Giving Suggestions Language Presentation

### Directions:

- Listen to the conversations.
- Practice the conversations with a partner.

### Conversation 1

Mark and Ana are partners in class. They have to decide whether to write a paper or make a poster for their project.

Mark: Should we write the paper or make a poster?

Ana: I think writing a paper is harder.

Mark: Really?

Ana: Yes, making a poster is easier.

Mark: Ok, let's make a poster.

### Conversation 3

Katie and Juan are classmates. They have to either write a dialog or write a story for their class work.

Katie: Let's write a dialog.

Juan: I think writing a dialog is more difficult.

Katie: Well, I think writing a story is more boring.

Juan: Ok, let's write a dialog.

### Conversation 2

Eli and Paulo work together. They have to email or call 10 people to remind them there is a meeting tomorrow.

Eli: Let's call everyone.

Paulo: I think emailing everyone is quicker.

Eli: Well, I think calling everyone is more efficient.

Paulo: Ok, let's call everyone.

### Conversation 4

Abdul and Sibani work together. They need to call or fax an order for more cleaning supplies to be delivered.

Abdul: Should we call or fax in the order?

Sibani: I think calling is more complicated.

Abdul: Really?

Sibani: Yes, faxing is better.

Abdul: Ok, let's fax in the order.

### Find the pattern!

In each conversation...

1. Underline the 1<sup>st</sup> suggestion in each dialog.
2. Double underline the 2<sup>nd</sup> suggestion in each dialog.
3. What do the two people decide to do?

Conversation 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Conversation 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Conversation 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Conversation 4: \_\_\_\_\_



## Highlighting Grid

### Directions:

- Now, use the sentences you underlined to fill in the grid.
- Fill in the 1<sup>st</sup> suggestion and 2<sup>nd</sup> suggestion for each conversation.
- Then, answer the questions below.



### Giving a Suggestion

INTRODUCTION	SUBJECT (choice)	"BE"	COMPARATIVE
1. I think	writing a paper	is	harder.
Yes,	making a poster		
2.	emailing everyone		
Well, I think			
3.			
4.			

### Questions:

1. Write the Comparative Forms in List A.

Then, write the word you see inside the comparative in List B

List A

Comparatives

.....harder.....

.....

.....

.....more efficient.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

List B

Word Inside

.....hard.....

.....

.....

.....efficient.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2. What kinds of words are in List B? .....

3. There are two ways to form comparatives:

A) ..... + er

B) more + .....

C) Which word in the list does not follow either of these rules?

4. How do you know whether to use Form A or Form B?

5. In the conversations, why did people use comparatives?

## Controlled Exercises

### Part I Directions:

- First, fill in the first two responses below to give suggestions.
- Use the faces to help you decide if the person ☺ likes or ☹ dislikes the idea.
- Then, fill in the last response with the agreed choice.

### Conversation 1

Wonjung and Marco are coworkers. They have to submit a report to their boss. They are deciding whether to write it or type it.

Wonjung: Let's type it.

Marco: I think typing it is ..... (easy, difficult)



Wonjung: Well, I think writing it is ..... (messy, neat)



Marco: Ok, let's .....

### Conversation 2

Neeraj and Freda are coworkers. They are taking lunch together and need to decide if they want McDonalds or a nice restaurant.

Neeraj: Let's go to a nice restaurant.

Freda: I think going to McDonalds is ..... (slow, fast)



Neeraj: Well, I think going to a nice restaurant is ..... (good, slow)



Freda: Ok, let's .....

### Conversation 3

Miako and Deepak are partners. They need to read an article from a magazine. They found one short article and one long article.

Miako: Should we read the short article or the long article?

Deepak: I think reading the long article is ..... (challenging, easy)



Miako: Yeah?

Deepak: Yes, reading the short article is ..... (easy, difficult)



Miako: Ok, let's .....

**Great Job... now let's make it a little more difficult.**

**Part II Directions:**

- First, fill in the first two responses below to give suggestions.
- You must begin each conversation and decide if the 2<sup>nd</sup> person ☺ likes or ☹ dislikes the idea.
- Then, fill in the last response with the agreed choice.

**Conversation 4**

*Mikko and Elsa are partners. They have to give a report on either Spain or Mexico for the class.*

Mikko: Let's report on Spain.

Elsa: ..... reporting on Spain is ..... (easy, hard) ☹

Mikko: Well, ..... reporting on Mexico is ..... (interesting, boring)

Elsa: Ok, let's .....

**Conversation 5**

*Claudio and Masha are classmates. They have to meet for a project they are working on either this week or next week.*

Claudio: Let's meet next week.

Masha: ..... meeting this week is ..... (good, hard) ☺

Claudio: Well, ..... meeting next week is ..... (easy, difficult)

Masha: Ok, let's .....

**Conversation 6**

*Kumi and Hironoshi are coworkers. They have to decide whether to finish their project late tonight or early tomorrow morning.*

Kumi: Should we stay late or come early?

Hironoshi: ..... coming early is ..... (good, hard) ☹

Kumi: Really?

Hironoshi: Yes, ..... staying late is ..... (simple, difficult)

Kumi: Ok, let's .....

## Semi-Controlled Exercises

### Directions:

- Fill in the blanks below to give suggestions.
- Choose an appropriate adjective from the bank.



### Adjective Bank:

To Express Like:	To Express Dislike:
easy simple good	tough difficult hard challenging
interesting	boring
clean neat	messy dirty
quick fast	slow
cheap	expensive



### Conversation 1

Eliene and Paul are coworkers. They have to decide whether to order Chinese or Pizza for lunch.

Eliene: Should we order Chinese or Pizza for lunch?

Paul: .....

Eliene: Yeah?

Paul: Yes, .....

Eliene: Ok.

### Conversation 2

Gustavo and Cara are classmates. They have to decide whether to take the bus or the metro to class together.

Gustavo: Let's take the bus.

Cara: .....

Gustavo: Well, .....

Cara: Ok.

### Conversation 3

*Marika and Cesar are coworkers. The steps to the building are broken. They have to either fix the broken steps or make new ones.*

Marika: Let's fix the steps.

Cesar: .....

Marika: Well, .....

Cesar: Ok.

### Conversation 4

*Katie and Juan are classmates. They have to either write or type their assignment to give to the teacher.*

Lucas: Should we write it or type it?

Raquel: .....

Lucas: Really?

Raquel: Yes, .....

Lucas: Ok.

### Conversation 5

*Jooyong and Marco are coworkers. They have to decide whether to drop the mail at the post office or call UPS to pick it up.*

Jooyong: Let's call UPS to pick it up.

Marco: .....

Jooyong: Well, .....

Marco: Ok.

### Conversation 6

*Lea and Pepe are classmates. They have to choose to meet either after class or on the weekend to do a project together.*

Lea: Should we meet after class or this weekend?

Pepe: .....

Lea: Yeah?

Pepe: Yes, .....

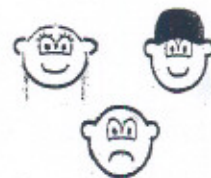
Lea: Ok.



## Communicative Activity

### Directions:

- Pick a partner.
- Read the situation in the big box.
- Write one possible choice you could do in each box.  
Then, write a few possible adjectives to describe why you would pick that choice.
- Last, have a conversation with your partner about each situation.  
You should give your suggestion using comparatives.



#### Situation 1

You and your coworker are in charge of the holiday work party. You need to decide how to contact everyone about it.

Choice 1

Choice 2

Adjectives

Adjectives

#### Situation 3

You and your classmate are working on a project together. You need to decide when to meet to work on the project.

Choice 1

Choice 2

Adjectives

Adjectives

#### Situation 2

You and your classmate are meeting at the library to study this weekend. You need to decide how to get there.

Choice 1

Choice 2

Adjectives

Adjectives

#### Situation 4

You and a co-worker want to go have lunch together. You have to decide where to go eat.

Choice 1

Choice 2

Adjectives

Adjectives

# Homework

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Directions:

- Pick two of the situations you discussed with your partner in class today.
- Write down the conversation (or a similar one) in the space below.
- You may have extra space.

Your Partner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Situation # \_\_\_\_\_

.....

.....

.....

.....

Situation # \_\_\_\_\_

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



## ANSWER KEY - Language Presentation

### Directions:

- Listen to the conversations.
- Practice the conversations with a partner.

### Conversation 1

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Mark: Should we write the paper or make a poster?

Ana: I think writing a paper is harder.

Mark: Really?

Ana: Yes, making a poster is easier.

Mark: Ok, let's make a poster.

### Conversation 3

Katie and Juan are classmates. They have to either write a dialog or write a story for their class work.

Katie: Let's write a dialog.

Juan: I think writing a dialog is more difficult.

Katie: Well, I think writing a story is more boring.

Juan: Ok, let's write a dialog.

### Conversation 2

Eli and Paulo work together. They have to email or call 10 people to remind them there is a meeting tomorrow.

Eli: Let's call everyone.

Paulo: I think emailing everyone is quicker.

Eli: Well, I think calling everyone is more efficient.

Paulo: Ok, let's call everyone.

### Conversation 4

Abdul and Sibani work together. They need to call or fax an order for more cleaning supplies to be delivered.

Abdul: Should we call or fax in the order?

Sibani: I think calling is more complicated.

Abdul: Really?

Sibani: Yes, faxing is better.

Abdul: Ok, let's fax in the order.

### Find the pattern!

In each conversation...

1. Underline the 1<sup>st</sup> suggestion in each dialog.
2. Double underline the 2<sup>nd</sup> suggestion in each dialog.
3. What do the two people decide to do?

Conversation 1: make a poster

Conversation 2: call everyone

Conversation 3: write a dialog

Conversation 4: fax in the order





## ANSWER KEY - Highlighting Grid

### Directions:

- Now, use the sentences you underlined to fill in the grid.
- Fill in the 1<sup>st</sup> suggestion and 2<sup>nd</sup> suggestion for each conversation.
- Then, answer the questions below.

### Giving a Suggestion

INTRODUCTION	SUBJECT (choice)	"BE"	COMPARATIVE
1. I think	writing a paper	is	harder.
Yes,	making a poster	is	easier.
2. I think	emailing everyone	is	quicker.
Well, I think	calling everyone	is	more efficient.
3. I think	writing a dialog	is	more difficult.
Well, I think	writing a story	is	more boring.
4. I think	calling	is	more complicated.
Yes,	faxing	is	better.

### Questions:

1. Write the Comparative Forms in List A.

Then, write the word you see inside the comparative in List B

List A Comparatives	List B Word Inside
.....harder.....	.....hard.....
.....easier.....	.....easy.....
.....quicker.....	.....quick.....
.....more efficient.....	.....efficient.....
.....more difficult.....	.....difficult.....
.....more boring.....	.....boring.....
.....more complicated.....	.....complicated.....
.....better.....	.....good.....

2. What kinds of words are in List B? ..... Adjectives .....

3. There are two ways to form comparatives:

A) ..... Adjective ..... + er

B) more + ..... Adjective .....

C) Which word in the list does not follow either of these rules? comparative "better", word inside "good"

4. How do you know whether to use Form A or Form B?

Use Form A for shorter adjectives (1-2) and Form B for longer Adjectives (2+).

5. In the conversations why did people use comparatives? To suggest something and give their opinion.

## ANSWER KEY - Controlled Exercises

### Part I Directions:

- First, fill in the first two responses below to give suggestions.
- Use the faces to help you decide if the person ☺ likes or ☹ dislikes the idea.
- Then, fill in the last response with the agreed choice.

### Conversation 1

Wonjung and Marco are coworkers. They have to submit a report to their boss. They are deciding whether to write it or type it.

Wonjung: Let's type it.

Marco: I think typing it is ..... more difficult ..... (easy, difficult)



Wonjung: Well, I think writing it is ..... messier ..... (messy, neat)



Marco: Ok, let's ..... type it .....

### Conversation 2

Neeraj and Freda are coworkers. They are taking lunch together and need to decide if they want McDonalds or a nice restaurant.

Neeraj: Let's go to a nice restaurant.

Freda: I think going to McDonalds is ..... faster ..... (slow, fast)



Neeraj: Well, I think going to a nice restaurant is ..... better ..... (good, slow)



Freda: Ok, let's ..... go to a nice restaurant .....

### Conversation 3

Miako and Deepak are partners. They need to read an article from a magazine. They found one short article and one long article.

Miako: Should we read the short article or the long article?

Deepak: I think reading the long article is ..... more challenging ..... (challenging, easy)



Miako: Yeah?

Deepak: Yes, reading the short article is ..... easier ..... (easy, difficult)



Miako: Ok, let's ..... read the short article .....

**ANSWER KEY - Great Job... now let's make it a little more difficult.**

**Part II Directions:**

- First, fill in the first two responses below to give suggestions.
- You must begin each conversation and decide if the 2<sup>nd</sup> person ☺ likes or ☹ dislikes the idea.
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**Conversation 4**

*Mikko and Elsa are partners. They have to give a report on either Spain or Mexico for the class.*

Mikko: Let's report on Spain.

Elsa: ..... I think ..... reporting on Spain is ..... harder ..... (easy, hard)



Mikko: Well, ..... I think ..... reporting on Spain is ..... more interesting ..... (interesting, boring)

Elsa: Ok, let's ..... report on Spain .....

**Conversation 5**

*Claudio and Masha are classmates. They have to meet for a project they are working on either this week or next week.*

Claudio: Let's meet next week.

Masha: ..... I think ..... meeting this week is ..... better ..... (good, hard)



Claudio: Well, ..... I think ..... meeting next week is ..... easier ..... (easy, difficult)

Masha: Ok, let's ..... meet next week .....

**Conversation 6**

*Kumi and Hironoshi are coworkers. They have to decide whether to finish their project late tonight or early tomorrow morning.*

Kumi: Should we stay late or come early?

Hironoshi: ..... I think ..... coming early is ..... harder ..... (good, hard)



Kumi: Really?

Hironoshi: Yes, ..... I think ..... staying late is ..... simpler ..... (simple, difficult)

Kumi: Ok, let's ..... stay late .....

Answers will vary for the Semi-controlled, Controlled, and Homework activities.