

6.1 Making comparisons

GR6.1

- Pilar is **smarter than** I am.
- I'm **more creative than** my brother, but **less creative than** my sister.
- Mrs Fiore is **the most patient** person I've ever met.
- They are **the least sociable** students in the class.
- Evan isn't **as confident as** me.

Most single-syllable adjectives have a comparative form with *-er* at the end, and a superlative form ending with *-est*. We use *more/most* with longer adjectives.

Type of adjective	Comparative	Superlative
One syllable ending <i>-e</i>	nicer	nicest
One syllable ending with one vowel + one consonant	hotter	hottest
One syllable	longer	longest
One or two syllables ending <i>-y</i>	happier	happiest
Two or three syllables	more helpful	most helpful
	more fantastic	most fantastic

- There are some exceptions, e.g. *bored – more bored*, and some adjectives are irregular, e.g. *good – better – best*, *bad – worse – worst*, *far – further – furthest*.
- The opposite of *more* is *less* and the opposite of *most* is *least*. *Less/Least* can also be used with short adjectives, e.g. *least shy* (= most confident), *less tidy* (= untidier).
- We use comparative adjectives (+ *than*) to compare people and things with other people and things.
My brother is lazier than me.
Children are more sociable than adults.
We're less lazy than the Jones family.
- We use superlative adjectives (usually with *the*) to compare people and things with the whole group.
He is the most confident person in the family.
I am the least shy student in the class.
You're the best mum in the world.
- We use *not as + adjective + as* to say that two things or people are not equal in some way:
I'm not as happy as Amy. (Amy is happier than me.)
- We use *(just) as ... as* to say two things or people are equal in some way:
Alan is (just) as creative as David. (They are equally creative.)

After *than* we use an object pronoun:
Our cousins are younger than us.
NOT *Our cousins are younger than we.*

- The researchers Friedman and Rosenman said there were two personality types, A and B. Write sentences comparing type A and type B people, using the words in brackets.

Type A	Type B
worried (about status)	satisfied (with life)
angry	calm
hard-working	patient
bad health	good health

- (worried) *Type A people are more worried about status than Type B people.*
- (satisfied) _____
- (calm) _____
- (angry) _____
- (patient) _____
- (have/bad health) _____

- Complete the sentences using comparative or superlative forms.

- Sue is hard-working. Gary is lazy.
Gary *is lazier than Sue*.
- I am clever. The others in my family are stupid.
I _____.
- Maria is unsociable. Javier is sociable.
Javier _____.
- The men in the class are shy. The women are confident.
The men _____.
- My chair's big. The others in the office are small.
My chair's _____.
- This car's large. The others in the showroom are small.
This car _____.
- My house is far from the school. Your house is close.
My house _____.

- Rewrite the sentences using *(just) as ... as*.

- I am more introverted than my friends.
My friends are not as introverted as me.
- My parents are better educated than my grandparents.

- Her children are more creative than my children.

- Helen is the least confident person in her family.
_____ others in the family.
- Rome and Rio de Janeiro are equally interesting.

6.2 Present perfect simple and past simple

1 Present perfect

GR6.2)))

- I **have travelled** around the world.
- He **hasn't met** our cousins.
- A **Have** you **talked** to my brother?
B Yes I **have**.

We make the present perfect simple with the auxiliary *have* and the past participle of the verb.

2 Past simple

GR6.2))) (continued)

- I **travelled** around Asia five years ago.
- He **didn't meet** our cousins in 2011.
- A **Did** you **talk** to my brother?
B Yes I **did**.

- We use the present perfect simple to talk about an action or situation in the past when we don't know the exact time or it isn't important. We use the past simple to talk about a specific time in the past.

*I **have invited** our in-laws for dinner.*

*I **wrote** to the Admissions Office yesterday.*

- We often use *ever* and *never* with the present perfect simple when we talk about experiences. We put them between the auxiliary and the past participle. *Ever* (in questions) means 'at some time in your life'. *Never* means 'at no time up to now'.

*Have you **ever** been to India? No, I've **never** been there.*

*We don't use **not** and **never** together.*

*I have **never** been to Turkey. NOT ~~I haven't never been to Turkey.~~*

- We often use the present perfect simple to start a conversation about our experiences. If we want to ask about or give more details, we use the past simple.

***Have you ever visited** your cousins in Canada?*

*Yes, we **went** there last year.*

Present perfect simple with *just*, *already* and *yet*

- We use *just* for something which happened very recently. We put it between *have/has* and the past participle.
*I've **just** got here.*
- We use *already* for something which happened before now and earlier than expected. We usually put it before the main verb.
*Winter has **already** arrived in Alberta!*
- We use *yet* in negative sentences and questions, for something we expected to happen before now or that we plan to do but haven't up to now. We put it at the end of the sentence.
*Have you seen any good matches **yet**?*

1 Write the past participles of these verbs.

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| 1 keep | <u>kept</u> | 5 leave | _____ | 9 read | _____ |
| 2 know | _____ | 6 take | _____ | 10 put | _____ |
| 3 make | _____ | 7 think | _____ | 11 buy | _____ |
| 4 go (+ return) | _____ | 8 write | _____ | 12 give | _____ |

2 Complete the sentences with the present perfect or past simple form of the verb in brackets.

- Have you ever been (you ever/go) to Julia's house? Yes, I went (go) there last year.
- We _____ (visit) Croatia in June. _____ (you/ever/have) a holiday there?
- The Jones family _____ (never/buy) a computer.
- _____ (you and your wife/eat) in Da Vinci's restaurant before? Yes, _____.
- There _____ (never/be) a doctor in this English class.
- _____ (you/ever read) *1984*? No, but I _____ (see) the film two years ago.

3 Write the sentences in the present perfect. Use the word in brackets.

- about 30% / of students / in my class / apply for a job (already)
About 30% of students in my class have already applied for a job.
- you / check / your emails ? (yet)

- Helen / play / computer games online (never)

- we / start using / Twitter (just)

- I / see / the news today (already)

- Adam / update / his blog (just)

- we / not got / an email from the hotel (yet)
