

3.2

GRAMMAR

Comparative and superlative adjectives

I can use all forms of comparative and superlative adjectives to make comparisons.

- 1  1.48 Do the Quick Culture Quiz. Then listen and check.

QUICK CULTURE QUIZ

True or False?

- Shakespeare's play *Romeo and Juliet* isn't **as long as** *Hamlet*. ☐
- Singer Mariah Carey has a **better** vocal range **than** Christina Aguilera. ☐
- The biggest** music festival in the world is the Glastonbury Festival in the UK. ☐
- The best-selling** film soundtrack of all time is *The Bodyguard*. ☐
- The Palace Museum in Beijing is **a bit busier** **than** the Musée du Louvre in Paris. ☐
- The *Harry Potter* films were **far more expensive** to make **than** *Pirates of the Caribbean*. ☐

- 2 Read the GRAMMAR FOCUS. Complete the examples using the comparative and superlative adjectives in blue in Exercise 1.

GRAMMAR FOCUS 12

Comparative and superlative adjectives

	Comparative	Superlative
Short adjectives		
long	longer (than)	the longest
big	bigger (than)	the biggest
busy	² _____ (than)	the busiest
Long adjectives		
expensive	³ _____ expensive (than)	the most expensive
Irregular adjectives		
good	⁴ _____ (than)	the best
bad	worse (than)	the worst
far	further (than)	the furthest

- You use **(just) as + adjective + as** to say things are equal and you use **not as + adjective + as** to make negative comparisons.
Romeo and Juliet isn't ⁵ _____ long as Hamlet.
 = *Hamlet is longer than Romeo and Juliet.*
- You use **a bit** or **much/far** to modify comparisons.

- 3 Complete the table with the comparative and superlative forms of the adjectives in the box.

(bad far fat funny high lucky
popular simple talented thin)

SPELLING RULE	COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES	SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES
Add -er / -r	higher	
Double letter + -er		
Delete -y, add -ier		
more + adjective		
Irregular		

- 4 **SPEAKING** Complete the questions with the comparative or superlative forms of the adjectives in brackets. Then discuss the questions.

- What is **the worst** (bad) song you've ever heard?
- What band is _____ (great) than the Beatles?
- What is _____ (thick) book you've ever read?
- Where is _____ (near) theatre to your house?
- Is it _____ (good) to watch a concert live or on telly?
- Where is _____ (exciting) nightlife in your city?
- Who is _____ (funny) – your mother or your father?

- 5 **SPEAKING** Complete the statements with **as**, **more**, **the** or **than**. Then discuss the statements.

- Music downloads are a bit cheaper **than** CDs.
- Jazz is not as popular _____ rock.
- American pop music is _____ best in the world.
- Live music is far _____ exciting than recorded music.
- Lady Gaga is just _____ talented as Adele.
- Male actors usually have much more interesting roles _____ female actors.
- The violin is _____ most difficult instrument to play.
- Who is _____ most talented musician among your friends?

- 6 **SPEAKING** Make sentences comparing things now with the same things five years ago. Use the prompts. Then compare your sentences with a partner.

cinema tickets	is	a bit	cheap/		five
pop music	are	much	expensive		years
mobile phones		just as	good/bad	than	ago
sharing videos		not as	big/small	as	
			easy/difficult		

Cinema tickets are a bit more expensive than five years ago.