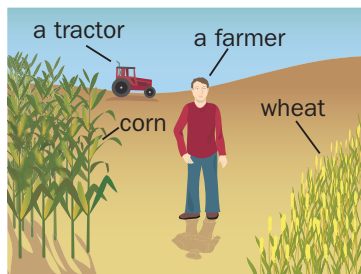


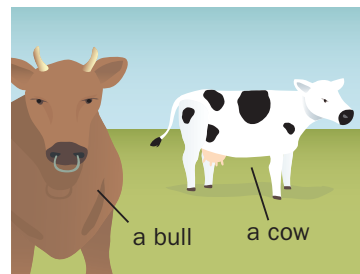
# Agriculture: Modern Farming

## CONTENT VOCABULARY

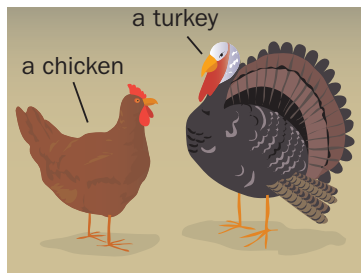
Look at the pictures. Do you know the words?



crops



cattle



poultry



pesticides

Write the new words in your vocabulary journal.

## THINK ABOUT IT

Are there farms near where you live? What crops do they grow? Do they have cattle or poultry? Are the farms big or small? Discuss these questions with your classmates.

## GRAMMAR IN CONTENT



CD1, TR26

## A Read and listen.

**GM Foods**

In 2003, there were about 170 million acres of genetically modified (GM) crops in 18 countries. What are GM crops? GM crops are plants changed by humans. Foods from GM crops are often **bigger than** foods from traditional crops.

Why are farmers growing GM crops? Some farmers think GM crops are **safer than** traditional crops. They think growing GM crops is **easier than** growing traditional crops because they don't need to use pesticides.

Some consumers think that GM crops will be **more expensive than** traditional crops. They think that GM foods are **healthier** because they don't go bad very fast. Many others think that foods from GM crops are not safe.

an acre: a piece of land measuring 4,840 square yards

## B Check (✓) True or False.

- |   | <b>True</b>              | <b>False</b>             |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. GM crops are the same as regular crops.      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Some farmers think growing GM crops is easy. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Everyone thinks food from GM crops is safe.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## Regular Comparative Adjectives

Adjective Type	Notes	Examples
one syllable	Add <i>-er</i> or <i>-r</i> and put the word <i>than</i> after it. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For adjectives with one vowel and one final consonant, double the final consonant and add <i>-er</i>.</li> <li>For adjectives with two vowels, add <i>-er</i>.</li> <li>For adjectives with two consonants, add <i>-er</i>.</li> <li>For adjectives ending in <i>-e</i>, add <i>-r</i>.</li> </ul>	big, bigger/hot, hotter  cool, cooler/great, greater cold, colder/fast, faster  nice, nicer/large, larger
two syllables ending in <i>-y</i>	Change <i>-y</i> to <i>-i</i> and add <i>-ier</i> and put the word <i>than</i> after it.	healthy, healthier

## Regular Comparative Adjectives

Adjective Type	Notes	Examples
some two-syllable adjectives	<p>Add <i>-er/-ier</i> OR use <i>more</i> before the adjective and the word <i>than</i> after it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some two-syllable adjectives that you can compare in two ways are <i>angry, clever, common, friendly, gentle, handsome, narrow, quiet, and simple</i>.</li> <li>Put <i>less</i> before the adjective and the word <i>than</i> after it.</li> </ul>	<p>friendly, more friendly, friendly, friendlier than</p> <p>not friendly, less friendly than</p>
three or more syllables	Put <i>more</i> or <i>less</i> before the adjective and the word <i>than</i> after it.	<p>expensive, more expensive than</p> <p>Nonorganic foods are <b>less</b> perishable <b>than</b> organic foods.</p>

### C Complete the dialogue with the verbs and adjectives in parentheses. Make comparative forms of adjectives and use the word *than*.

**Kyle:** Do you know which college you want to go to next year?

**Betty:** Yes. I want to go to Texas A&M University.

**Kyle:** A&M? Why?

**Betty:** I looked at many schools, but A&M offers more exciting  
(1)  
(exciting) courses \_\_\_\_\_ the others. Their curriculum is  
\_\_\_\_\_ (hard) \_\_\_\_\_ some other schools, but  
(2)  
the school is also \_\_\_\_\_ (famous) \_\_\_\_\_  
(3)  
many other colleges.

**Kyle:** Do you plan on being a farmer?

**Betty:** Yes, I do. I'm \_\_\_\_\_ (interested) in feeding people  
(4)  
\_\_\_\_\_ in any other career. And I think a career in  
agriculture will be \_\_\_\_\_ (stressful) \_\_\_\_\_  
(5)  
a career in high finance and business. I know that's what *you* like.

**Kyle:** I really think that farming is \_\_\_\_\_ (stressful)  
(6)  
\_\_\_\_\_ business.

**D** Write sentences to compare the pictures. Use comparatives of the adjectives in parentheses.

1. (fat) Cow A is fatter than cow B.

2. (healthy) \_\_\_\_\_

3. (heavy) \_\_\_\_\_

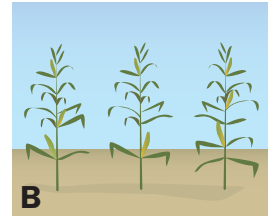
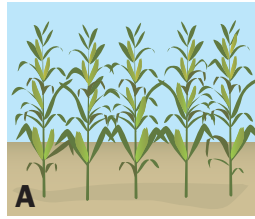
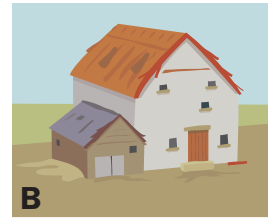
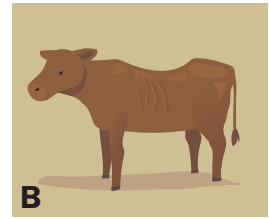
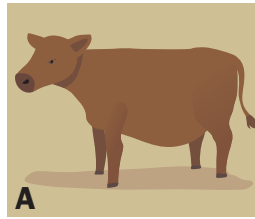
4. (big) \_\_\_\_\_

5. (modern) \_\_\_\_\_

6. (beautiful) \_\_\_\_\_

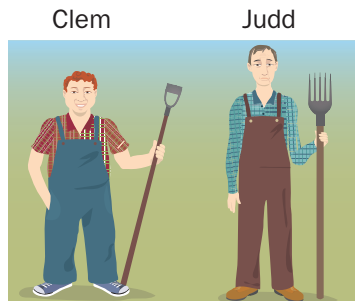
7. (tall) \_\_\_\_\_

8. (tasty) \_\_\_\_\_



## COMMUNICATE

**E PAIR WORK** Compare these two farmers. Use the adjectives in the box.



old tall thin curly friendly long  
short practical dangerous

**F PAIR WORK** Compare yourself to your partner. Discuss what's different and the same about you.

## GRAMMAR IN CONTENT



CD1, TR27

## A Read the dialogue.



## Organic Vegetables

**Liam:** Hey, Lynn! I see you're shopping for groceries, too.

**Lynn:** Hi, Liam. Look at these organic tomatoes! Aren't they beautiful?

**Liam:** Organic? I can't afford organic.

**Lynn:** They are expensive. But organic vegetables are much **better than** nonorganic vegetables. Farmers use **fewer** chemicals to grow them so they're healthier.

**Liam:** Yeah, I know organic farms use **fewer** pesticides **than** nonorganic farms. But organic vegetables are still more expensive **than** regular ones.

**Lynn:** Well, eating organic vegetables is **better than** eating nonorganic vegetables. But not eating any vegetables is **worse**.

**afford:** to be able to pay for something without difficulty

## B Check (✓) True or False.

- Liam thinks organic food is expensive.
- Lynn thinks organic food isn't healthy.
- Lynn thinks eating vegetables is bad.

True

False

## Irregular Comparative Adjectives

Irregular Adjectives	Comparative Phrases	Examples
good	better than	Organic potatoes are <b>better than</b> nonorganic potatoes.
bad	worse than	For crops, drought is <b>worse than</b> insects.
far	farther than	A tractor goes <b>farther than</b> a horse and cart.

## Note:

It is also acceptable to use *further than*.

## Irregular Comparative Adjectives with Nouns

Irregular Adjectives		Comparative Adjectives	Countable Nouns	than
a few a lot of	Ashley's farm has	fewer more	cows crops	than mine.
		Comparative Adjectives	Uncountable Nouns	than
a little much	Ashley's farm has	less more	cattle corn	than mine.

### C Complete the sentences about the pictures. Use irregular comparative adjectives.



Reiko

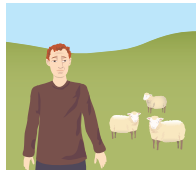


Roberto

1. Reiko has a lot of corn, but Roberto has more corn than Reiko.



Roberto



Philip

2. Roberto has many sheep, but \_\_\_\_\_.



3. Harvey's apples are good, but \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Marvin's apples have a lot of flavor, but \_\_\_\_\_.



5. Farmington has 4,382 people in it. Orchardville \_\_\_\_\_.

6. Shadylane Farm is \_\_\_\_\_ from Orchardville \_\_\_\_\_ Sunnyvale Farm is.

**D** Look at the chart. Write sentences comparing the two farms. Use irregular comparative adjectives.

Farming Industry Report: Poultry		
	Sunnyvale Farm	Shadylane Farm
1. Profit	\$100,000	\$560,000
2. Employees	50	105
3. Chickens	3,500	10,500
4. Turkeys	2,100	1,650
5. States they sell to	3	10

1. Sunnyvale Farm makes less profit than Shadylane Farm.
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNICATE

**E WRITE** Write a paragraph comparing organic food and nonorganic food. Use irregular comparative adjectives.

**F GROUP WORK** Compare two places you know well. Use the words in the box to help. Discuss your comparisons with a small group.

population food weather people history agriculture cities economy

Chile has fewer people than the United States and the cities are smaller.



**GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY** Work with a classmate. Spot the eight differences between the two pictures. Use the grammar and vocabulary from the lesson.



**PROJECT** Debate agricultural issues.

1. Work in groups. Divide into two teams.
2. Choose one of these topics to debate:
  - Chemicals are bad for farms.
  - Organically grown crops are healthier for us.
  - Bigger farms are better than smaller farms.
3. One team will be “pro” (meaning “for” something). The other team will be “con” (meaning “against” something). Prepare comparative statements to defend your team’s opinion, pro or con.
4. Have a debate.



**INTERNET** Go online. Choose a country you want to know more about. Compare that country’s agriculture to the agriculture in your country. How many farms are there? What crops do they grow? Prepare a short report for the class on what you find.