Cars in a scrap yard in Canada.
Lesson 1
page 206
Comparative Adjectives and Adverbs

Lesson 2
page 213
Comparisons with (Not) As . . . As and Less

Lesson 3
page 220
Superlative Adjectives and Adverbs

Review the Grammar
page 227

Connect the Grammar to Writing
page 230
What is a Consumer Society?

A consumer is a person who buys things, and a consumer society is a society that encourages people to buy and use goods. Some people think that a consumer society provides people with better lives. People in consumer societies tend to live more comfortably. They eat a wider variety of food. They go to restaurants more often. They also buy a lot of products, maybe more than they need.

Products such as TVs, cell phones, and computers used to be luxuries. Today people can buy these things more easily than ever before. The market for these goods is growing faster all the time. Consumer societies encourage people to buy bigger and better products. For example, “smarter” phones come out every year. In a consumer society, people are often buying newer and more advanced products. This creates a lot of waste. Nowadays, many people are thinking more seriously about the effects of consumer societies on the environment, and they are trying to become more responsible consumers.

1 goods: items that can be bought or sold
2 luxury: something that is expensive but not necessary
2 CHECK. Read each statement. Circle T for true and F for false.

1. Everyone agrees that consumer products improve their lives. T F
2. These days, consumer goods are hard to find. T F
3. Many people want luxury products these days. T F
4. Consumer societies help the environment. T F

3 DISCOVER. Complete the exercises to learn about the grammar in this lesson.

A Find these sentences in the article from exercise 1. Write the missing words.

1. They eat a _________________ variety of food.

2. . . . , and they are trying to become ____________________________ consumers.

B Look at the words you wrote in exercise A. Then circle the correct word to complete each rule.

1. For long / short adjectives, put more before the adjective to form the comparative.

2. For long / short adjectives, add -er to the end of the adjective to form the comparative.
8.1 Comparative Adjectives

1. Use a comparative adjective + than to compare two people, places, or things. You can use a comparative adjective + noun when the comparison is clear from context.

Lydia is taller than Alex.
Gorillas are more intelligent than cows.
The bigger house is mine.
The more interesting shows are on cable TV.

2. Add -er to the end of most one-syllable adjectives to form the comparative.* If the adjective ends in -e, add -r.

small → smaller
large → larger
low → lower
nice → nicer

3. Use more before most long adjectives (adjectives that have two or more syllables).

Jack is more serious than Nikki.
Do you think math is more important than music?

4. Some two-syllable adjectives are used with either -er or more to form the comparative.

quiet → quieter / more quiet
simple → simpler / more simple

5. Some adjectives have an irregular comparative form.

good → better
far → farther, further

*See page A3 for more information on spelling rules for comparative adjectives.

REAL ENGLISH

Words such as a little, a lot, much, and not much, are often used to quantify comparative adjectives.

Tina is a little taller than Nick.

4 Complete each sentence with the correct comparative form of the adjective in parentheses. Add than when necessary.

1. New cars are much more quiet than / quieter than (quiet) old cars.
2. Do you think money is ____________________________ (important) good health?
3. This coat is ____________________________ (nice) that one.
4. My old laptop was a lot ____________________________ (big) my new one.
5. Gas is so expensive! I want a ____________________________ (efficient) car.
6. Many people think modern life is ____________________________ (good) life in the past.
7. Communication is a lot ____________________________ (easy) it was 50 years ago.
8. The pollution in my city is much ____________________________ (bad) it used to be.
9. I prefer ____________________________ (hot) temperatures. That’s why I love summer.
10. My new school is a little ____________________________ (far) my old one.
8.2 Comparative Adverbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comparative Adverb</th>
<th>Than</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>faster</td>
<td>than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more rapidly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gas prices are rising faster than food prices.

1. Use a comparative adverb + than to compare two actions.
   - Mark works harder than Jeff.
   - Carol drives more carefully than Peter.

2. Add -er to the end of one-syllable adverbs to form the comparative.
   - fast → faster
   - hard → harder
   - long → longer
   - high → higher

3. Use more before adverbs that end with -ly.
   - quickly → more quickly
   - frequently → more frequently

4. Some adverbs have an irregular comparative form.
   - well → better
   - far → farther, further
   - badly → worse

5. Complete the sentences with the comparative form of the adverbs in parentheses + than.

   1. My new oven works a lot ___________ (good) my old oven. It heats up much _________________ (quick) my old oven, but it also burns food ___________ (often) my old one!

   2. Now that he’s a manager, Gerry works a lot ___________ (hard) he used to. He also travels _________________ (frequent) he did before, and his trips last _________________ (long) they used to.

   3. People are creating garbage _________________ (rapid) they used to. They are throwing away their old things because they can buy new goods _________________ (easy) before. In the past, people treated their belongings _________________ (careful) they do now.

6. Use the words in parentheses to complete each sentence. Use the comparative form of the adverb and the correct form of the verb.

   1. This computer ___________ (work / efficiently) that computer.

   2. My new watch _________________ (keep time / accurately) my old watch.

   3. My sister _________________ (call / often) my brother.

   4. My phone _________________ (ring / loudly) your phone.

   5. Tara _________________ (shop / frequently) Lori.


   7. Kate _________________ (sing / badly) Deb.

   8. Lila _________________ (study / hard) Nora.
## 8.3 Completing Comparisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.</th>
<th>You can use an object pronoun to complete a comparison. But in more formal speaking and writing, use a subject pronoun + an auxiliary verb.</th>
<th>Ed is six feet tall. Bob is taller than <strong>him</strong>.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Object Pronoun</strong></td>
<td><strong>Subject Pronoun + Aux. Verb</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Use an auxiliary verb after <em>than</em>. Do not repeat the main verb.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓ Ana runs faster than <strong>Pat</strong> <strong>does</strong>.</td>
<td>X Ana runs faster than <strong>Pat</strong> <strong>runs</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>A possessive noun or possessive pronoun can be used after <em>than</em>.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My car was more expensive than <strong>Ellen’s</strong>.</td>
<td>My car was more expensive than <strong>hers</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>If the comparison is clear, <em>than</em> and the second part of the comparison are not necessary.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nowadays, smart phones are <strong>cheaper</strong>.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td><strong>Be careful! Use than, not then, in a comparison.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓ I work harder than I used to.</td>
<td>X I work harder than I used to.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 7 Circle the correct word(s) to complete each sentence.

1. My computer is more efficient **than your** / **than yours**.

2. The white coat is warmer **then** / **than** the gray one.

3. Ellen buys nicer clothes **than I do** / **than I am**.

4. Cars are expensive, but houses are **more expensive / more expensive than**.

5. Does your new stereo play music more loudly than your old one **was** / **did**?

6. Harry’s motorcycle is newer than **my / mine**.

7. Cho’s package arrived more quickly **than Kelly’s did** / **than Kelly’s was**.

8. Dave is 27 years old. His sister is older **than he is** / **than he does**.

### 8 Complete each comparison using the information in parentheses. Do not repeat the same noun.

1. Irina’s car is bigger **than mine (is)**

2. Tom takes better photos **than his father**.

3. Miguel’s suit is more fashionable **than Chad’s suit**.

4. You finished your shopping more quickly **than she**.

5. Jeff’s kitchen is larger **than our kitchen**.

6. This printer prints more quickly **than your printer**.

7. My apartment is more comfortable **than their apartment**.

8. Alison studies harder **than her sister**.
9 Use the words in parentheses to complete the conversation with comparative adjectives or adverbs. Add than where necessary. In some cases, more than one answer is possible.

Matt: My phone is working (1) **worse than** (badly) ever! And it’s (2) __________________________ (old) all the other phones I see, too. I want a (3) __________________________ (modern) phone.

Lara: Take a look at my phone. It was (4) __________________________ (cheap) my last phone, and I’m much (5) __________________________ (happy) with it. When I’m traveling, I listen to music (6) __________________________ (often) I do when I’m at home, so I wanted a phone with a (7) __________________________ (big) memory card.

Matt: Wow, it’s much (8) __________________________ (nice) mine! The screen is a lot (9) __________________________ (large), too. I want one like that!

Lara: Yeah, you need a big screen, because you watch videos on your phone (10) __________________________ (frequently) I do.

10 Look at the charts comparing three laptop computers. Then complete the sentences with the comparative form of the adjectives and adverbs in parentheses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Details</th>
<th>T400</th>
<th>XJ7</th>
<th>A-50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Screen size</td>
<td>15 inches</td>
<td>17 inches</td>
<td>14 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>5.5 pounds</td>
<td>6 pounds</td>
<td>6.5 pounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of time on the market</td>
<td>18 months</td>
<td>3 months</td>
<td>9 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>$565</td>
<td>$650</td>
<td>$499</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Customer Ratings</th>
<th>T400</th>
<th>XJ7</th>
<th>A-50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starts quickly</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runs reliably</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operates quietly</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displays pictures well</td>
<td>★ ★ ★</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. (large / small) The screen of the T400 is **larger than** the A-50’s, but it is **smaller than** the XJ7’s.

2. (light / heavy) The XJ7 is _________________ the A-50, but it is _________________ the T400.

3. (new / old) The A-50 is _________________ the T400, but it is _________________ the XJ7.

4. (cheap / expensive) The T400 is _________________ the XJ7, but it is _________________ the A-50.

5. (quickly / slowly) The T400 starts _________________ the XJ7, but _________________ the A-50.
6. (reliably) The T400 runs the XJ7 or the A-50.
7. (quietly) The A-50 operates the T400 or the XJ7.
8. (well) The XJ7 displays pictures the T400 or the A-50.

11 LISTEN to six people deciding what to buy. Circle the choice each speaker makes. Then write the reason for each decision. Use comparative adjectives or adverbs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaker's Choice</th>
<th>Reason for Decision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speaker 1: blue coat / green coat</td>
<td>It is more comfortable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker 2: sports car / family car</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker 3: yellow roses / red roses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker 4: downtown / suburbs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker 5: brown boots / black boots</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker 6: big TV / small TV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12 APPLY.

A Imagine that you are going on vacation soon. Brainstorm a list of vacation ideas, for example, a camping vacation, a resort vacation, a safari, etc. Write your list of ideas in your notebook.

B Choose two of your vacation ideas from exercise A to compare. In your notebook, make a chart like the one below. Write notes about your vacation ideas in your chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A Camping Vacation</th>
<th>A Resort Vacation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cheap</td>
<td>expensive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sleep on the ground</td>
<td>comfortable bed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fun</td>
<td>relaxing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>simple food</td>
<td>good food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>close to nature</td>
<td>gym, pool</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C In your notebook, write five sentences comparing your two vacation choices. Use the information from your chart from exercise B and comparative adjectives and adverbs.

A camping vacation is cheaper than a resort vacation. Your sleep will be more comfortable at a resort. Camping is more fun than a resort.

D Choose one of your vacation ideas from exercise C. In your notebook, write two or three sentences to explain why you prefer it.

I want to go on a camping vacation. It's cheaper than a resort vacation, and it's closer to nature.

E Work with a partner. Share your ideas from exercise C and explain your decision from exercise D. Did your partner make a good choice? Why, or why not?
EXPLORE

1 READ the excerpt from a discussion between the professor of a business class and a guest speaker. Notice the words in bold.

Online Reviews: ★ or ★★★★★?

Professor: So, Dennis, what changes have you seen in marketing recently?

Dennis: Well, as you know, customers love to post online reviews of products these days. These reviews are now just as important as traditional advertising. Maybe even more important. TV advertising is as useful as it was before, of course. On the other hand, newspaper ads are much less effective than they used to be.

Professor: Hmm. That’s interesting. . . . I’ve spoken to some marketing people who aren’t as positive as you are about online reviews.

Dennis: Really? I’m surprised. There are certainly some concerns with online reviews. For example, satisfied customers are less likely to write reviews than people who have had a problem. This means there might be more negative reviews than positive ones. But online shoppers are wiser now. A few negative opinions are not as harmful as they used to be. Also, the positive reviews can be as valuable as ads. If a customer loves a product, he or she will endorse it just as enthusiastically as a TV ad does!

1 ad: short for advertisement
2 endorse: to say that you support or approve of someone or something
3 enthusiastically: to do something in a way that shows a lot of interest and excitement
2 CHECK. Read each statement. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. Dennis thinks that online reviews are not very important in marketing. T F
2. Newspaper ads used to be more effective. T F
3. Some marketing people have a negative opinion of online reviews. T F
4. Customers with problems are more likely to write online reviews. T F
5. Online shoppers won’t buy a product if they see a negative review. T F
6. Positive online reviews aren’t very valuable. T F

3 DISCOVER. Complete the exercises to learn about the grammar in this lesson.

A Look at each phrase from the discussion in exercise 1 on page 213. Does the phrase mean equal or not equal? Circle the correct answer.

1. as useful as equal / not equal
2. less effective than equal / not equal
3. aren’t as positive as equal / not equal
4. not as harmful as equal / not equal
5. as valuable as equal / not equal
6. as enthusiastically as equal / not equal

B Look at the phrases from exercise A. Then answer the questions.

1. What word follows comparisons beginning with as + adjective? _____________
2. What word follows comparisons beginning with less + adverb? _____________
8.4 Comparisons with As . . . As

1. Use as + adjective/adverb + as to compare two people, places, or things that are the same or equal in some way.
   Adjective: Your car is as old as mine.
   Adverb: I can run a mile as fast as you can.

2. To complete a comparison with as . . . as, you can use
   a. a noun (+ verb)
   b. a subject pronoun + verb or an auxiliary verb
   c. a possessive noun or possessive pronoun
   a. I dance as well as my brother (dances).
   b. I dance as well as he dances.
   I dance as well as he does.
   c. My computer is as old as Rita’s.
   My computer is as old as hers.

3. In informal speaking, object pronouns are often used to complete comparisons with as . . . as.
   Formal: He’s as tall as I am.
   Informal: He’s as tall as me.

4. Complete each sentence with as . . . as and the adjective or adverb in parentheses.
   1. Magazine ads are ________ as effective as (effective) newspaper ads.
   2. Mark plays the guitar __________________________ (well) Nancy does.
   3. Online reviews are ____________________________ (useful) asking friends about products.
   4. I read online reviews __________________________ (carefully) he does.
   5. The coat was just ____________________________ (warm) it looked.
   6. Your sofa is just ____________________________ (comfortable) Diane’s.
   7. My computer is ____________________________ (fast) the newer models.
   8. He shops online ____________________________ (frequently) I do.

5. Use the words to make comparisons with as . . . as.
   1. Desktop computers / be / popular / laptops
      Desktop computers are as popular as laptops (are).
   2. Microwave ovens / work / well / regular ovens
   3. Motorcycles / go / fast / cars
   4. This hotel room / be / big / my apartment
## 8.5 Comparison with Less and Not As . . . As

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Less + Adjective or Adverb + Than</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>This phone is</strong></td>
<td><strong>less</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>This old fan works</strong></td>
<td><strong>less</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not As + Adjective or Adverb + As</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>This phone is</strong></td>
<td><strong>not as</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>This old fan does</strong></td>
<td><strong>not work as</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The opposite of more is less. Not as . . . as and less have the same meaning.
   
   My old car was **less efficient than** my new car.  
   My old car was **not as efficient as** my new car.

2. Use *not as . . . as* with one-syllable adjectives or adverbs.
   
   My apartment is **not as big as** yours.  
   Tom doesn’t run **as fast as** Steven.

3. Use *less . . . than or not as . . . as* with adjectives or adverbs that have two or more syllables. The meaning is the same.
   
   My son visits **less frequently than** my daughter.  
   My son doesn’t visit **as frequently as** my daughter.

4. **Remember:** If the comparison is clear, the second part of the comparison is not necessary.
   
   The food at Joe’s cafe isn’t **as good as** the food at Chez Claude, but it’s **less expensive.**  
   The food at Joe’s cafe is **less expensive than** the food at Chez Claude, but it isn’t **as good.**

See Chart 8.3 for more information completing comparisons.

### 6 Complete the conversations with *less* or *not as . . . as* and the words in parentheses. Do not use *not* unless it is included in the parentheses. Use *than* and the second *as* only where necessary.

1. **Anita:** The clothes in this store (1) ______ **aren’t as nice as** (not be / nice) they used to be. Look at this coat! It’s much (2) ____________________ (fashionable) the coat I bought here last year.
7 Rewrite each sentence with the word(s) in parentheses.

1. My watch is less attractive than yours. (not as . . . as)
   
   My watch isn't as attractive as yours.

2. Sally's shoes aren't as fancy as Jill's. (less)

3. Adam exercises less frequently than he used to. (not as . . . as)

4. This supermarket isn't as expensive as the one across the street. (less)

5. The actor's new movie isn't as exciting as his last one. (less)

6. This gym is less convenient than the one near my house. (not as . . . as)

7. This review is less positive than that one. (not as . . . as)

8. The new tablet doesn't start up as quickly as the old one. (less)

PRACTICE

8 Complete the conversation with less or (not) as . . . as and the words in parentheses. Make the verbs negative only when not is given. Use than and the second as only where necessary.

Tina: Your new camera (1) isn’t as big as your old one.

Dawn: I know. It (2) isn’t as heavy as my old X-2000, and it was (3) expensive, too.
Customer Reviews

***** A Huge Success!

Our family loves this! Our last playhouse was much less exciting than the Jolly Roger. It was also less attractive as this one. And this is really an important point: it wasn’t as safe as. –Maria

*** Hard to Build

My kids enjoyed this, but for me, putting it together was just as hard building a real pirate ship! It’s true that I probably don’t build things as quickly as a lot of other people do. And maybe I’m not as good with tools as they do, but I still think this product should be less complicated than! –Sam

**** Fun for Younger Kids

My four-year-old son says this play structure is fun as a real pirate ship! He plays in it as often as he can, but my six-year-old daughter isn’t as enthusiastic as he is about it. I’m a little disappointed because she uses it less often then I expected. –Lin
Look at the chart comparing three Internet movie services. Then complete each sentence with the words in parentheses. Use less and (not) as . . . as. For some sentences, more than one answer is possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>C-Movie</th>
<th>MyScreen</th>
<th>FAB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership fee</td>
<td>$9.95</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly rate</td>
<td>$7.95</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
<td>$9.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New movies</td>
<td>every month</td>
<td>every two weeks</td>
<td>every week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easy to use</td>
<td>★ ★ ★</td>
<td>★ ★ ★</td>
<td>★ ★ ★</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer service</td>
<td>★ ★ ★</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★</td>
<td>★ ★ ★ ★</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. FAB’s membership fee ___________ is as cheap as ________ (be / cheap) MyScreen’s.
2. Becoming a member of MyScreen _______________ (be / expensive) joining C-Movie.
3. C-Movie’s monthly rate _______________ (be / high) the others’.
4. C-Movie ____________________________ (add new movies / frequently) FAB.
5. Using FAB ___________________________ (be / difficult) using the others.
6. On C-Movie, you can _____________________________ (find movies / easily) on MyScreen. They are both pretty easy to use.
7. MyScreen’s customer service ___________________________ (be / good) FAB’s.
8. C-Movie’s customer service ___________________________ (be / helpful) the other two services.

11 APPLY.

A Use the chart below to compare two or three similar products or services you have used. For example, transportation services, restaurants, shopping websites, etc. Choose five categories to compare. Use the chart from exercise 10 as a model.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1:</th>
<th>2:</th>
<th>3:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B In your notebook, write five sentences comparing the products or services from your chart in exercise A. Use less and (not) as . . . as. Use the sentences in exercise 10 as models.

The TRIMET bus is less expensive than the subway or a taxi. It’s not as comfortable as a taxi. . . .

C Work with a partner. Talk about how the products or services you chose compare with each other. Use less and (not) as . . . as. Does your partner agree with you?
Mount Everest: The Highest Garbage Dump in the World?

Most people know that Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world. However, there is another fact that many people don’t know: it has become one of the dirtiest mountains in the world.

Mount Everest is one of the toughest and most exciting mountains to climb on Earth. It is not the coldest or the windiest place on Earth, but it comes close! These challenges make it one of the most attractive mountains for serious climbers. Since 1952, over 3500 climbers have reached the top. Unfortunately, most of them have left equipment and trash on the mountain.

In fact, trash is now one of the biggest threats to the environment on Mount Everest. Local organizations have brought tons of trash down from the mountain. One of the most interesting projects handed over more than a ton of tin cans, glass bottles, and old climbing tools to artists in Nepal. The artists used the trash to create works of art. Then, they sold the art to raise money for local charities.\(^1\) The least expensive work of art cost $17, and the most expensive one cost $2400.

\(^1\) charity: an organization that raises money to help people

The consumer society produces a lot of waste, even in the Himalayas. Here, a climber collects trash on Mount Everest.
2 CHECK. Circle the correct word to complete each statement.

1. According to the reading, Mount Everest is very clean / dirty.
2. Climbing Mount Everest is very difficult / easy.
3. Mount Everest is an unusual / a popular mountain for serious climbers.
4. Climbers rarely / often leave trash on Mount Everest.
5. People create art / charities from the trash on Mount Everest.

3 DISCOVER. Complete the exercises to learn about the grammar in this lesson.

A Look at the bold phrases in the reading from exercise 1. Then write three more examples in each column of the chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjectives with -est</th>
<th>Adjectives with most</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tall</td>
<td>exciting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B Which adjectives add most? Circle the correct answer.  
a. long ones  
b. short ones
8.6  Superlative Adjectives and Adverbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Superlative Adjective</th>
<th>Superlative Adverb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The red car is</td>
<td>the nicest</td>
<td>car in the parking lot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She runs</td>
<td>the fastest</td>
<td>of all the players on the team.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Use a superlative adjective to compare three or more people, places, or things.
   - Ali is **the tallest** student in our class.
   - Prague is **the most beautiful** city I’ve ever seen.
   - What's **the most interesting** book you've ever read?

2. Use a superlative adverb to compare the action of three or more people or things.
   - Of all my friends, Alicia calls **the most frequently**.
   - My red shoes fit **the most comfortably** of all my shoes.

3. Add -est to the end of most one-syllable adjectives or adverbs to form the superlative.* Use the before superlative adjectives. It is not as common before adverbs.
   - Adjective: I bought **the longest** couch in the store.
   - Adverb: Steve works **hardest** of all the students.

4. Use **the most** before most adjectives that have two or more syllables and adverbs ending in -ly.
   - Maria is **the most careful** climber of the group.
   - The Grand Canyon is **the most amazing** sight I’ve ever seen.
   - Of all the girls, Brenda sings **the most beautifully**.

5. For some two-syllable adjectives and adverbs, either -est or the most can be used to form the superlative.
   - stupid → **the stupidest/the most stupid**
   - cruel → **the cruellest/the most cruel**

6. Some superlatives are irregular.
   - good/well → **the best**
   - bad/badly → **the worst**

*See page **A3** for more information on spelling superlative adjectives and adverbs.

4  Complete the sentences with the superlative form of the adjective or adverb in parentheses.

1. **The biggest** (big) piles of trash on Mount Everest are on the lower areas.

2. Trash is one of ___________________________ (bad) problems on Mount Everest now.

3. Many climbers consider K2, a mountain between Pakistan and China, to be ___________________________ (difficult) mountain to climb, not Mount Everest.

4. Ted was ___________________________ (experienced) climber on the expedition.

5. Which climber is ___________________________ (far) from the top?
6. That was _____________________ (easy) mountain I’ve ever climbed.

7. Danny climbs _____________________ (quickly) of all of us.

8. Mount Everest is _____________________ (high) mountain on Earth.

9. That company has _____________________ (good) guides.

10. Climbing Mount Everest in a snowstorm is one of _____________________ (stupid) thing you can do. It’s extremely dangerous!

5 LISTEN & SPEAK.

A Listen and complete each question with the superlative form of the adjective or adverb you hear.

1. At what time of day do you work ________most efficiently______?

2. Who is ___________________________ person in the world?

3. What is ___________________________ movie you’ve ever seen?

4. What kind of books do you read ___________________________?

5. What is ___________________________ thing to do in a storm?

6. What is ___________________________ to watch?

7. What is ___________________________ place to have lunch in this area?

8. Who is ___________________________ person in your family?

B Work with a partner. Take turns asking and answering the questions from exercise A.

A: At what time of day do you work most efficiently?

B: In the afternoon.

8.7 More on Superlative Adjectives and Adverbs

1. The opposite of most is least.

2. A prepositional phrase with in or of is often used to complete a superlative.

3. Remember: If the comparison is clear, it is not necessary to complete it.

4. One of the often comes before a superlative adjective. The superlative adjective is followed by a plural noun.
6 Use the words in parentheses to write superlative sentences. Use least when not is included in the parentheses. Make the nouns plural if necessary.

1. This is a state park. (not popular / in California)

   This is the least popular state park in California.

2. Canada is a country. (large / in North America)

3. Tokyo has a population. (big / in Japan)

4. This is an apartment. (not expensive / in the building)

5. Alan drives. (fast / of my three brothers)

6. Jane is a student. (one of the / intelligent / in her class)

7. That was a class. (one of the / not interesting / I’ve ever taken)

8. Mel works. (not efficiently / all the people in this office)

9. This is a computer. (cheap / in the store)

10. That’s a street. (one of the / pretty / in this city)

7 SPEAK. Work with a partner. Talk about people, places, and things you know about. Use the superlative form of the adjectives and adverbs from the box or your own ideas.

   carefully fast hard large popular
crowded good interesting old well

My grandmother is the oldest person in my family. She’s 91.
8 Complete the sentences with the superlative form of the adjectives and adverbs in parentheses. Use least if not is included in the parentheses.

1. Kelly: I think people are too concerned about having (1) **the most modern** (modern) cell phones. Cell phones contain some of (2) **the rarest** (rare) minerals on Earth, but many people just throw their old cell phones away when they buy a new one. This is (3) **one of the worst** (one of the / bad / thing) you can do! But if you recycle your old cell phones, it’s (4) **one of the best** (one of the / good / thing) you can do.

2. Amir: My cell phone is (5) **the most important** (important / thing) I own. It’s (6) **the most convenient** (convenient / place) I have to keep information.

3. Brad: My new cell phone is a piece of junk! It was (7) **the least expensive** (not expensive) phone in the store. What a mistake! Also, the salesperson in that store was one of (8) **the least helpful** (not helpful / salesperson) I’ve ever spoken to.

9 **EDIT.** Read the article about trash in the desert. Find and correct eight more errors with superlatives.

**Cameron’s Camels**

The Arabian Desert in the Middle East is one of the **hottest** environments on Earth, and it has the **less** amount of rainfall. But to the camel, it is home. The camel is one of the most strong animals in the world. Camels can go for many days with only a little food and water. When they do find water, they probably drink the **most** quick of any land animal. Adult camels can drink about 25 to 30 gallons (95–114 liters) in ten minutes. Unfortunately, finding water is not the **seriousest** problem camels face. Most dangerous threat to camels comes from humans. Tourists in the desert leave trash behind. Camels think the trash is food and eat it. This is very dangerous for the camels, because it can kill them.

One of the **most polluted** part of the desert is outside the city of Abu Dhabi. Each year, many camels die there from eating trash. Cameron Oliver has been trying to change this. Since he was **the youngest** eight years old, Cameron has been telling people that trash is very dangerous for camels. Of all the **most** young people in Abu Dhabi, Cameron has worked **the hardest** to help the camels. When he was 12, Cameron became the **most** young person to win an Abu Dhabi award for community service.
A Work with a partner. Use the words in parentheses to write superlatives. Then choose the correct answer to complete each fact on the quiz.

**General Knowledge Quiz**

1. _______ is [high/mountain] on Earth.
   a. Mount Kilimanjaro  
   b. Mount Everest  
   c. K2

2. _______ is [fast/animal] in the world.
   a. the camel  
   b. the zebra  
   c. the cheetah

3. _______ is [long/river] in the world.
   a. The Nile River  
   b. The Amazon River  
   c. The Yangtze River

4. _______ is [wide/ocean] on Earth.
   a. The Pacific Ocean  
   b. The Atlantic Ocean  
   c. The Indian Ocean

5. _______ is [small/continent].
   a. Africa  
   b. Antarctica  
   c. Australia

6. _______ is [large/animal] on Earth.
   a. the elephant  
   b. the blue whale  
   c. the giraffe

7. _______ is [cold/place] on Earth.
   a. Antarctica  
   b. Alaska  
   c. Canada

8. _______ is [close/planet] to the sun.
   a. Mars  
   b. Venus  
   c. Mercury

B Check your answers at the bottom of this page. How many of your answers were correct?

C With your partner, write six more general knowledge facts like the ones from the quiz in exercise A. Use superlative adjectives and adverbs.

1. The Nile River is the longest river in the world.

D Use the facts from exercise C and quiz your classmates.

A: This is the largest country in South America.

B: Is it Argentina?

A: No.

C: Is it Brazil?

A: Yes, it is!

Answers: 1. b. Mount Everest  
2. c. the cheetah  
3. a. The Nile River  
4. a. the Pacific Ocean  
5. c. Australia  
6. b. the blue whale  
7. a. Antarctica  
8. c. Mercury
READ & WRITE.

Read the information about the Greendex survey, and look at the chart. Then complete each sentence according to the information in the chart. Use the comparative or superlative form of the adjective or adverb in parentheses. For some sentences, more than one answer is possible.

The Greendex is a survey of 1000 consumers in several countries. It asks consumers how they spend their money. Each consumer receives a score. High scores indicate “green,” or environmentally friendly, attitudes. Low scores indicate environmentally unfriendly attitudes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greendex: Rankings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazilians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexicans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russians</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Transportation**

1. The Chinese make _______ the greenest _______ (green) choices.
2. Americans are _________________________ (green) consumers.
3. British consumers make _________________________ (green) choices than Canadian consumers.
4. Mexican consumers are _________________________ (green) Japanese consumers.

**Food**

5. The British are _________________________ (concerned) the Chinese.
6. Indians are _________________________ (concerned) consumers.
7. Russians are _________________________ (concerned) Brazilians.
8. Americans are _________________________ (concerned) Canadians.
Goods


10. Indians buy goods ____________________________ (responsibly).


12. Americans buy goods ____________________________ (responsibly).

In your notebook, write four or five sentences based on the housing data from the Greendex chart in exercise A on page 227. Use comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs. Use the sentences from exercise A to help you.

Mexicans make greener housing choices than Canadians.
Indian consumers are more concerned about green housing than German consumers are.

The Greendex Survey: Some Overall Conclusions

- According to a recent Greendex survey, people in India were the most green consumers in the world. They scored lower in transportation than the Chinese were, but they scored the highest than the Chinese in three other categories.

- Mexicans were more concerned about green transportation as green food or goods. For them, the low score of all was in the housing category.

- Germans scored highly in the transportation category than they did in the food category. However, they were least concerned about housing than goods.

- The Japanese were one of the least concerned nationality overall. They had one of the most bad scores in the housing category.

- Americans had the lowest overall score of all the nationalities in the survey. Food was the only category in which Americans did not score lower then the other nationalities.
3 LISTEN & SPEAK.

A Listen to a professor discussing the Greendex survey with her students. Then complete the students’ opinions about the survey.

Martin:

1. Most people think that their country is _______________ the results show.
2. Many people think they buy goods _______________ they really do.
3. We like to think we’re trying _______________ we can to be green.

Karin:

4. Life in the United States is much _______________ without a car.
5. Cars that use less gas are becoming _______________ in the United States.
6. Attitudes about the environment aren’t changing _______________ people think.

Andrew:

7. Most people want to make life _______________ for themselves and their families.
8. Everyone wants an _______________ life.

B Look at the sentences from exercise A. Then listen again. Do you agree or disagree with the students’ ideas and opinions? Why, or why not? Write notes on your own ideas and opinions in your notebook.

C Work with a partner. Share your ideas and opinions from exercise B. Use comparatives and superlatives.

I agree with Martin’s opinion about goods. People don’t shop as carefully as they think they do.

4 WRITE & SPEAK.

A Look at the items in the box. Then rank the items from 1 to 8, with (1 = the least important and 8 = the most important).

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>a. a big car</td>
<td>d. a smart phone</td>
<td>g. plastic bags</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>b. stylish clothing</td>
<td>e. meals in restaurants</td>
<td>h. a gold watch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>c. a computer</td>
<td>f. a TV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B In your notebook, write six sentences about the items from exercise A. Use comparatives and superlatives and your own ideas and opinions.

I think a computer is less important than a smart phone.

C Work with a partner. Share your rankings from exercise A and your opinions from exercise B.
1 READ & NOTICE THE GRAMMAR.

A Before you buy something, do you compare it with similar products? Discuss your shopping habits with a partner. Then read the text.

The Best Sleeping Bag

I needed to buy a new sleeping bag for a winter camping trip. So, I went to a camping store and compared three different brands of sleeping bags: Ultra Comfort, Snowy Down, and Northern Trek. I wanted to look at each sleeping bag very carefully. For winter camping, the Snowy Down had the highest rating. But in some ways, the other two sleeping bags were better. Of the three sleeping bags, the Snowy Down was the warmest, but it was also the most expensive. The Northern Trek cost less than the Snowy Down, but it was just as expensive as the Ultra Comfort. The Ultra Comfort was warmer than the Northern Trek. Finally, the Ultra Comfort was lighter than the other sleeping bags, so it was easier to carry.

I decided not to get the Northern Trek for camping outside. It wasn’t as warm as the other sleeping bags. But we were having a mild winter, so I didn’t need the warmest kind of sleeping bag. So I looked more closely at the lightest sleeping bag, the Ultra Comfort. That’s the one I chose.

1 brand: the commercial name for a product

GRAMMAR FOCUS

In exercise A, the writer uses comparatives and superlatives to discuss three sleeping bags.

The Ultra Comfort was warmer than the Northern Trek.

. . . it was just as expensive as the Ultra Comfort.

Of the three sleeping bags, the Snowy Down was the warmest and most expensive.

B Read the text in exercise A again. Underline the comparatives and circle the superlatives. Then work with a partner and compare your answers.

C Work with a partner. Complete the chart with information from the text in exercise A.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Details</th>
<th>Ultra Comfort</th>
<th>Snowy Down</th>
<th>Northern Trek</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>as expensive as the Northern Trek</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warmth</td>
<td></td>
<td>the warmest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2 **BEFORE YOU WRITE.** Think of a product that you plan to buy. Compare three different brands of this product. Complete the chart with information about each brand. Use the chart from exercise 1C as a model.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Details</th>
<th>Product #1</th>
<th>Product #2</th>
<th>Product #3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cost</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 **WRITE** a review comparing the three different brands of the product you chose. Write two paragraphs. Use the information from your chart in exercise 2 and the article in exercise 1A to help you.

**WRITING FOCUS**  Correcting Run-on Sentences

A run-on sentence is an error that happens when two independent clauses are connected without a connecting word or correct punctuation.

✗ I enjoyed my winter camping trip next year, I’ll invite a few friends to join me.

To correct a run-on sentence, you can divide the run-on sentence into separate sentences.

✓ I enjoyed my winter camping trip. Next year, I’ll invite a few friends to join me.

You can also use a comma and a conjunction (and, but, or) between the two independent clauses.

✓ I enjoyed my winter camping trip, but next year I’ll invite a few friends to join me.

4 **SELF ASSESS.** Read your review and underline the comparatives and superlatives. Then use the checklist to assess your work.

- I used comparative adjectives and adverbs correctly. [8.1, 8.2, 8.3]
- I used comparisons with less and (not) as . . . as correctly. [8.4, 8.5]
- I used superlative adjectives and adverbs correctly. [8.6, 8.7]
- I checked for and corrected run-on sentences. [WRITING FOCUS]