

LENGUA EXTRANJERA: INGLÉS 2

UNITY 5. COMPARATIVES AND SUPERLATIVES



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INTRODUCTION

Finally, this is the last unit from the entire module in which there would be more important structures used in English for daily life even at home or work. In order to achieve the most valuable lingual skills it is necessary to complete five units proposed in this module.

As it is known a wide range of vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, word order, grammar structures, phrasal verbs, linkers or connectors are just part of the knowledge compulsory to be accomplished to be able of using the four lingual skills appropriately.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

Finally, this is the end of the module, whereas all the objectives are supposed to be completed in order to complete the knowledge necessary and compulsory to assure the four lingual skills in English are aimed.

Unit 5 main objective or goal is to be familiar with structures which are completely different from Spanish and other languages whereas the use of comparatives and superlatives as well as the use of phrasal verbs (the most common used) in all of the abilities needed in English.

To conclude, relatives clauses is also part of the linguistic and its objective is to enable students be familiar using them and make the differences between one or another when necessary,

1. COMPARATIVES

Short adjectives

Big	-----	bigger than
Hot	-----	hotter than
Tall	-----	taller than
Thin	-----	thinner than
Old	-----	older than
New	-----	newer than

Long adjectives

Important	-----	more important than
Interesting	-----	more interesting than
Efficient	-----	more efficient than
Renewable	-----	more renewable than
Acceptable	-----	more acceptable than
Enjoyable	-----	more enjoyable than

Once, these changes are known it is time to define the structure used for comparing things, animals, objects or situations.

In order to compare there must be two elements or more but always it has to be done against one to one.

COMPARATIVES USING SHORT ADJECTIVES

SUBJECT + VERB (ANY TENSE) + SHORT ADJ + ER + THAN + COMPLEMENT

Here you are some examples

- Amazon prime is cheaper than Netflix
- Spain is richer than Nigeria
- A rabbit is faster than a turtle
- Lima City is bigger than Caracas City
- Drones are newer gadgets than mp4

COMPARATIVES USING LONG ADJECTIVES

SUBJECT + VERB (ANY TENSE) +MORE + LONG ADJ +THAN +COMPLEMENT

Once again, here you are some other examples

- Renewable energies are more efficient than non-renewable ones
- Developed countries are more advanced in technology than undeveloped ones
- Public schools are more reliable in Europe than in South America
- Keeping fit and healthy is more difficult than people expect it to be
- Posts and cads will become more popular than physical books soon
- Covid 19 is more lethal than any other virus nowadays

Even though there should also been known that in English there is an exception with some adjectives as follows below

Exceptions

GOOD ----- BETTER THAN

BAD ----- WORSE THAN

FAR ----- FURTHER THAN

2. SUPERLATIVES

In English when there is a need to compare things in a grade of superlatively in reference or against other things it is used the superlative forms. This structure is similar to the comparative one because it uses short adjectives and long adjectives in its word order structure.

SUPERLATIVES USING SHORT ADJECTIVES

Short adjectives

Big	-----	The biggest
Hot	-----	The hottest
Tall	-----	The tallest
Thin	-----	The thinnest
Old	-----	The Oldest
New	-----	The newest

Long adjectives

Important	-----	The most important
Interesting	-----	The most interesting
Efficient	-----	The most efficient
Renewable	-----	The most renewable
Acceptable	-----	The most acceptable
Enjoyable	-----	The most enjoyable

Once, these changes are known it is time to define the structure used for comparing things, animals, objects or situations in a superlative manner.

In order to compare there must be at least one element or more but always it has to be done against one group.

SUPERLATIVE USING SHORT ADJECTIVES

SUBJECT + VERB (ANY TENSE) + THE +SHORT ADJ + EST + COMPLEMENT

Here you are some examples

- Amazon prime is the cheapest annual subscription platform

- The Vatican is the smallest country in the world
- The Salto angel is the highest waterfall in the world
- Lima City is one of the poorest cities in South America
- Cobots are the newest inventions in Robotics

SUPERLATIVE USING LONG ADJECTIVES

SUBJECT + VERB (ANY TENSE) +THE MOST + LONG ADJ +COMPLEMENT

Once again, here you are some other examples

- Renewable energies are the most efficient on the planet
- Developed countries are the most advanced in all senses
- Public schools are the most reliable in Europe
- Keeping fit and healthy is one of the most difficult things to achieve
- Posts and cads will become the most popular publications on the net
- Covid 19 is the most lethal illness nowadays

Even though there should also been known that in English there is an exception with some adjectives as follows below

Exceptions

GOOD ----- THE BEST

BAD -----THE WORST

FAR -----THE FURTHEST

VERBS THAT EXPRESS MOVEMENT

In Spanish is usually shown with a verb. In English is with a verb +preposition or adverb

- Go along the street
- Go around the lake
- Go through the tunnel
- Go into the shop
- Go out of the shop
- Go across the street/road
- Go over/across the bridge
- Go up the steps
- Go down the steps
- He ran away

- **They went away**
- **We went back to the hotel**
- **We got off the bus**

3. PHRASAL VERBS

Verb with a particle (on, off, for, up, etc)

- Turn off/on
- Look after
- Other examples

Correct use of the phrasal verbs

- I want to give up smoking (NOT TO LEAVE OF SMOKING)
- Turn down the music (NOT go down the music)
- Take off your coat (NOT Quit your boots)
- Fill in this form for me, please (NOT Fill this form for me)
- I will give it back to you (NOT Return it)
- I will call you back (NOT I will call you)

Here you are a list of the most common phrasal verbs used in English

Call off / Call (something) **off** – *to cancel*

e.g.- *We need to call off our trip to Malta due to the weather.*

Calm down – *relax after being angry*

e.g.- *You can stay here with us after you have calmed down.*

Catch up – *get to the same point as another person.*

e.g.- *Before I finish my annual project , it's going to take me ages to catch up!*

Do over / Do (something) **over** – *do again*

e.g.- *The staff have to do the training over because They did not achieved the objectives*

Eat out – *eat at a restaurant*

e.g.- *Let's stay home and prepare spaghetti tonight, I'm tired of eating out.*

Figure out / Figure (something) **out** – *understand or find the answer*

e.g.- *The HR manager let us going home early because he figured out the problem arising.*

Give up / Give (something) **up** – *stop trying, quit*

e.g.-. *Most people find it difficult to give up smoking .*

Go over (something) – *review*

e.g.- **Go over** your application form to make sure you filled in correctly.

Hang out – *spend time relaxing (informal)*

e.g.- When there is no money , It is impossible to **hang out** outside.

Hold on – *wait for a moment*

e.g.- **Hold on** a second, I'm quite busy.

Keep on (doing something) – *continue what you are doing*

e.g.- Noelia asked her to wait, but she **kept on** talking on the phone.

Look for / Look for (something or somebody) – *search for, or try to find*

e.g.- The company was **looking for** a new 3D printer.

Pass out – *faint, lose consciousness*

e.g.- It is very hot today someone might **pass out**

Put off / Put (something) **off** – *postpone*

e.g.-The hotel recommended us to **put** the trip **off** until covid 19 is under control.

Put on / Put (something) **on** – *put clothing or accessories on your body*

e.g.- Hurry up! **Put** that belt **on**.

Throw away / Throw (something) **away** – *put in the garbage, dispose of*

e.g.- The secretary **threw away** my documents without realizing

Turn on/off – Turn (something) **on/off** – *start or stop the power or energy source*

e.g.-Can you **turn off** the Siri, please?

e.g.- **Turn** Alexa **on** please!

Turn up/down – Turn (something) **up/down** – *increase or decrease the volume or strength*

e.g. We are having so much fun . **Turn it up!**

e.g.- At home mum usually **turns** the heat **down** at night.

Turn up – *appear suddenly*

e.g.-We did not expect our boss **turned up** in the office today.

4. USES OF DO/MAKE

The basic difference between DO and MAKE is that “DO” often used for actions obligations, and repetitive tasks whereas “MAKE” is for activities you choose to do and producing or creating something.

Another difference is “DO” refers to the action itself and “MAKE” to the result

ENGLISH COLLOCATIONS WITH DO

HOUSEWORK

- Do the housework.
- Do the laundry
- Do the dishes
- Do the shopping

EXCEPTION: make the bed = putting blankets, sheets, and pillows in the correct place so that the bed looks nice and not messy.

WORK / STUDY

- Do work
- Do homework
- Do business
- Do a good/great/terrible job
- Do a report
- Do a course

TAKING CARE OF YOUR BODY

- Do exercise
- Do your hair (= style your hair)

GENERAL GOOD OR BAD ACTIONS

- Do anything / something / everything / nothing
- Do well
- Do badly
- Do good
- Do the right thing
- Do your best

COMMON ENGLISH COLLOCATIONS WITH MAKE

FOOD

- Make breakfast/lunch/dinner
- Make a sandwich
- Make a salad
- Make a cup of tea
- Make a reservation

MONEY

- Make money
- Make a profit
- Make a fortune
- Make \$_____

RELATIONSHIPS

- Make friends
- Make fun of someone (= tease / mock someone)
- Make up (= resolve a problem in a relationship)

COMMUNICATION

- Make a phone call
- Make a joke
- Make a point
- Make a bet
- Make a complaint
- Make a confession
- Make a speech
- Make a suggestion
- Make an excuse
- Make a promise
- Make a fuss (= demonstrate annoyance)
- Make an observation
- Make a comment

EXCEPTION: Don't say "make a question." The correct phrase is "ask a question."

PLANS & PROGRESS

- Make plans
- Make a decision/choice
- Make a mistake
- Make progress
- Make an attempt / effort (= try)
- Make up your mind (= decide).
- Make a discovery
- Make a list
- Make sure (= confirm)
- Make a difference
- Make an exception

[DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DO AND MAKE](#)

5. RELATIVE CLAUSES

DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

In English it is used a specific structure to refer certain time clauses which involve two or more sentences embedded in one. There are called relative clauses and there are two types defining and non-defining. The structure needs the words when, where, who, which, what, whose or that depending on what it has been asked.

GRAMMAR STRUCTURE

Defining relative clauses

We use defining relative clauses to give essential information about someone or something – information that we need in order to understand what or who is being referred to. A defining relative clause usually comes immediately after the noun it describes.

We usually use a relative pronoun (e.g. *who*, *that*, *which*, *whose* and *whom*) to introduce a defining relative clause (In the examples, the relative clause is in **bold**, and the person or thing being referred to is underlined.):

*They're the people **who want to buy our house**.*

*Here are some cells **which have been affected**.*

*They should give the money to somebody **who they think needs the treatment most**.*

*She's now playing a woman **whose son was killed in the First World War**.*

Spoken English:

In defining relative clauses we often use *that* instead of *who*, *whom* or *which*. This is very common in informal speaking:

*They're the people **that want to buy our house**.*

*Here are some cells **that have been affected**.*

Non-defining relative clauses

We use non-defining relative clauses to give extra information about the person or thing. It is not necessary information. We don't need it to understand who or what is being referred to.

We always use a relative pronoun (*who*, *which*, *whose* or *whom*) to introduce a non-defining relative clause (In the examples, the relative clause is in **bold**, and the person or thing being referred to is underlined.)

*Clare, **who I work with**, is doing the London marathon this year.*

Not: ~~Clare, I work with, is doing the London marathon this year.~~

Doctors use the testing kit for regular screening for lung and stomach cancers, which account for 70% of cancers treated in the western world.

Alice, who has worked in Brussels and London ever since leaving Edinburgh, will be starting a teaching course in the autumn.

Warning

We don't use *that* to introduce a non-defining relative clause:

Allen, who scored three goals in the first game, was the only player to perform well.

Not: ~~Allen, that scored three goals in the first game, was the only player to perform well.~~



GLOSSARY

Ensure (verb) it means to make sure something to happen

Give up (verb) it means to stop doing something or quitting

Goal (noun) it is a target or objective

Grow up (verb) it is similar to increase, go up, or becoming older

Hire (verb) it is the same as recruit

Hunger (noun) lack of enough food

Poverty (noun) in reference with countries or governments with not enough money

Partnership (noun) relationship between your partners at work.

Set up (verb) to start a business or any other activity

Successful (adj) having fame, status, or personal achievements

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