



## Making Comparisons



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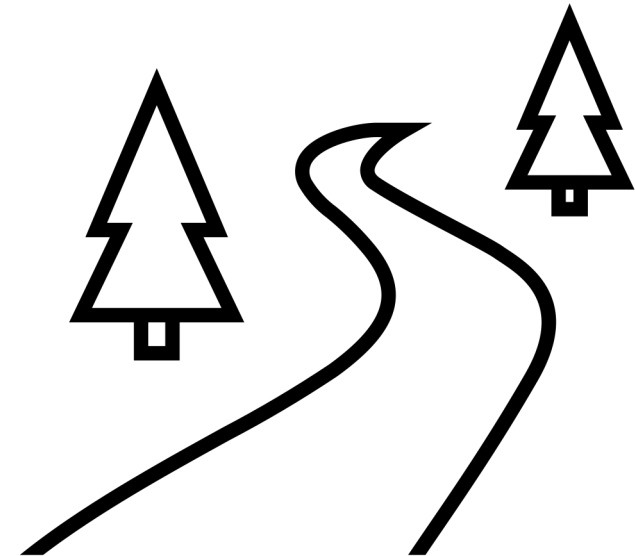
# Introduction

## Welcome to Live25!

- **A new feature of English Online**
- **Free grammar presentations**
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- **Sit back and enjoy!**

*Please be on mute*

*You can keep your cams off*



## Lead-in

**Compare online and face-to-face learning.**



**Try not to use the same comparisons as your classmates!**

# Meaning and form 1: a small or a big difference?

## Ways of expressing a big difference

- **much** more convenient than
- **considerably** better than
- **a lot** less serious than
- **nowhere near as** harmful as
- There's a **striking difference** between

We can use modifiers: *much, a lot, far, considerably, a great deal* or *way* + comparative adjective.

Spoken English: *a great deal, way*

We can use patterns:

*nowhere near as* + adjective + *as*

We can use expressions:

*There's a striking difference between*

### Examples:

*The interview was **nowhere near as bad as** I thought it would be.*

*There's a **striking difference** between working in the office and working from home.*

# Meaning and form 1: a small or a big difference?

## Ways of expressing a small difference or saying that something is the same

- **It's no** worse/better than
- **almost as** good as
- **pretty much the same as**
- **slightly** more difficult than
- very **similar to**

We can use modifiers: *slightly, a bit* + comparative adjective

We can use patterns:  
*It's no* + comparative adjective + *than*  
*It's (almost, just, not quite) as* + adjective + *as*

We can use expressions:  
*It's very similar to*

### Examples:

*The shops in the city centre are all **pretty much the same**.*

*This grammar session is **almost as good as** the last one I attended!*

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# Check your understanding

Name 2 ways to express a big difference?

Name 2 ways to express a small difference?

Can you say 'It was a bit good'? Why/why not?

Does 'nowhere near' mean a big difference? How do express the opposite with 'as+...+as'?

## Meaning and form 2: a positive or a negative comparison?

Positive	Negative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>There's no comparison!</b></li><li>• I think the hotels here are <b>in the same league as</b> up North.</li><li>• The roads here <b>are miles better than</b> on the other side of the island.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It's nice, but <b>nowhere near as</b> nice as the Thai thing you cooked last time.</li><li>• I play football, but <b>I'm nothing like as</b> good <b>as</b> you are at it.</li><li>• I find the food here a bit bland <b>by comparison.</b></li><li>• <b>It's not even close to</b> being their best performance.</li></ul>

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# Check your understanding

**Name 1 phrase for positive comparison?**

**Name 1 phrase for positive comparison?**



## Grammar tip: degrees of comparison

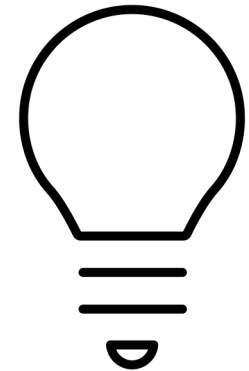
**1) Use modifiers to show a small or a big difference.**

**2) Use these patterns to compare:**

(not, just, nowhere near, nothing like) as +adjective + as

**3) Use expressions and be careful with prepositions:**

...by comparison, there's no comparison, ...(not) in the same league as...



# Grammar Checkout

**Choose the best option for each sentence.**

1. It's **more / much** better this time!
2. It's nice, but **nowhere / nothing near as** nice as the Thai thing you cooked last time.
3. The food here is **miles / metres** better!
4. The pace of life here is much faster **by comparing / comparison**.

# Grammar Checkout - Answers

**Choose the best option for each sentence.**

1. It's **much** better this time!
2. It's nice, but **nowhere near as** nice as the Thai thing you cooked last time.
3. The food here is **miles** better!
4. The pace of life here is much faster **by comparison**.

# Thank you for attending this presentation!

Review the next few slides for lessons linked to this Live25 webinar.

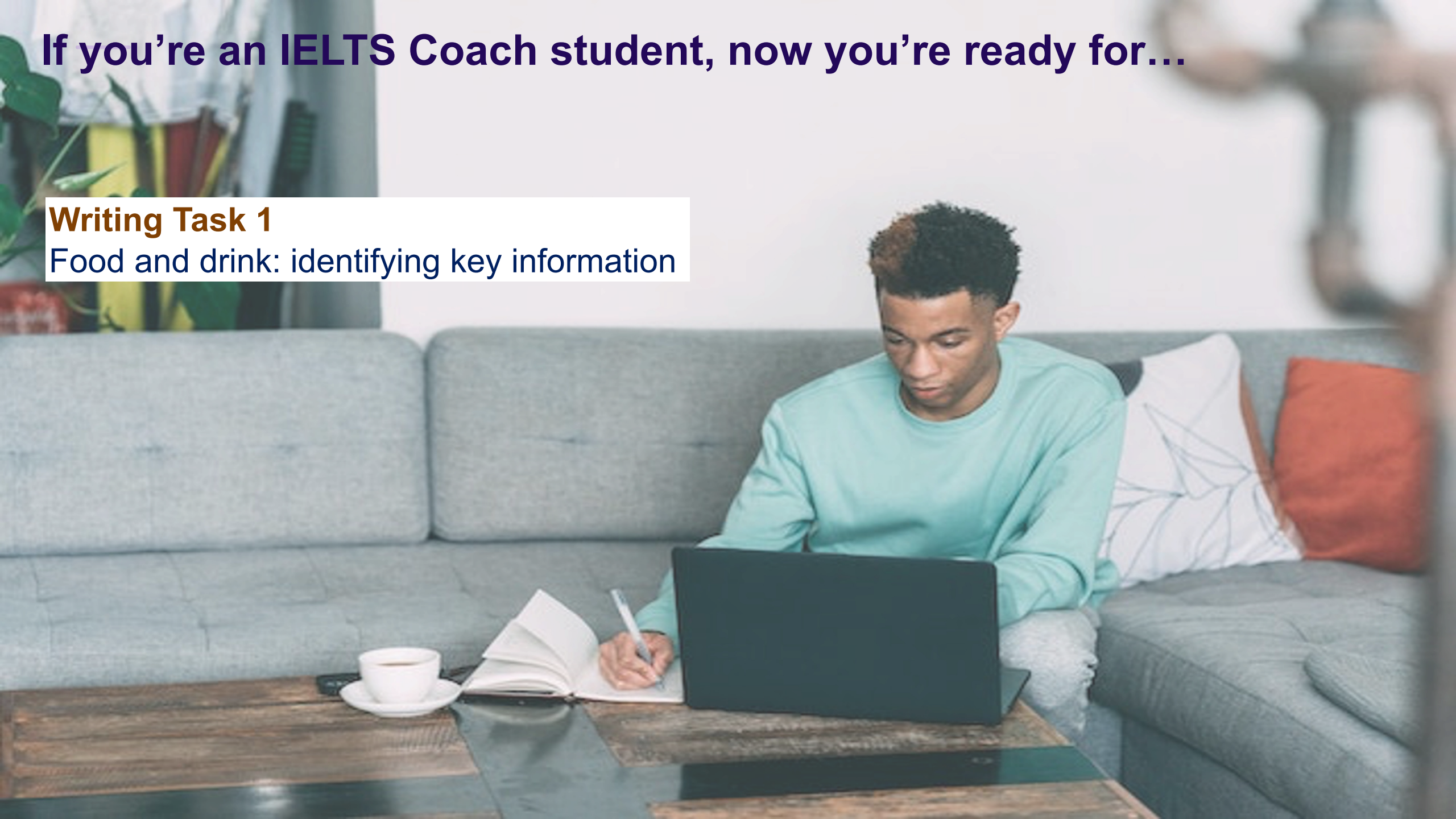


<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/grammar/b1-b2-grammar/modifying-comparatives>

If you're an IELTS Coach student, now you're ready for...

## **Writing Task 1**

Food and drink: identifying key information





# If you're an English Online student, now you're ready for...

## Elementary

**Theme:** Living spaces

**Lesson:** Where is the best place to live?

## Pre-intermediate

**Theme:** Effective meetings

**Lesson:** What is your suggestion?

## Intermediate

**Theme:** Mind, body and health

**Lesson:** A change is as good as a rest

## Upper intermediate

**Theme:** Discussion and debate

**Lesson:** Fair justice?

## Advanced

**Theme:** Travel, holidays and the environment

**Lesson:** Changing places





If you're an English for Work student, now you're ready for...

**Elementary**

**Theme:** Your background

**Lesson:** Your ideal job

**Pre-intermediate**

**Theme:** New ideas and opportunities

**Lesson:** Products and prices

**Intermediate**

**Theme:** Meetings and negotiations

**Lesson:** Comparing products

**Upper intermediate**

**Theme:** Evaluating performance

**Lesson:** Collaborating with colleagues

**Advanced**

**Theme:** People and events

**Lesson:** Organising a client event