



SPEAKING

UNIT 9: OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH NATURE

Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.



GRAMMAR FOR SPEAKING

GRAMMAR FOR SPEAKING Comparative Adjectives

We use comparative adjectives to talk about the difference between two people, places, or things.

Adjectives with	Example	Comparative form
one syllable	tall, large	taller (than), larger (than)
two syllables ending in -y	happy, pretty	happier (than), prettier (than)
two or more syllables	interesting	more/less interesting (than)
irregular adjectives	good, bad	better, worse

A giraffe is **taller than** an elephant.

Wildlife documentaries are **more interesting than** other TV shows.

We often use comparative forms when we give our opinion.

A: Do you prefer English or math?

B: I think English is **more interesting than** math because...

We don't always use the *than* phrase when we know what it refers to.

The Adélie Penguin is **taller than** the Rockhopper Penguin.

The Adélie Penguin is **less colorful than** the Rockhopper Penguin.

B Look at the photos and read the information about two more species of penguin. With a partner, say sentences to compare the two species. Use the adjectives in the box.

big heavy light colorful short small tall

> The population of the Adélie Penguin is **bigger than** the population of the Rockhopper Penguin.

Penguin Fact File			
	70 cm (27.5 in)	Average height	56 cm (22 in)
	4.5 kg (10 lbs)	Average weight	2.5 kg (5.5 lb)
	4,740,000	Estimated population	480,600

The Adélie Penguin is **heavier than** the Rockhopper Penguin.

The Rockhopper Penguin is **lighter than** the Adélie Penguin.

The population of the Rockhopper Penguin is **smaller than** the population of the Adélie Penguin.

The Rockhopper Penguin is **shorter than** the Adélie Penguin.

The Rockhopper Penguin is **more colorful than** the Adélie Penguin.

C Complete the conversations with comparative adjectives. Listen and check. Then practice with a partner. 

1. A: I want to watch a movie, but I can't decide. What's ¹ better (good)?

A comedy or a drama?

B: Comedies are ² more popular (popular), but why not watch an action movie?

They're ³ more exciting (exciting).

2. A: Let's visit somewhere new. Do you want to go somewhere ⁴ quieter

(quiet), like the mountains? Or do you want to go somewhere ⁵ busier

(busy), like the city?

B: Let's go to the city. Shopping is ⁶ more enjoyable (enjoyable) than hiking!

3. A: The public transportation in my city gets ⁷ worse (bad) every year.

So I need to buy either a car or a bicycle. What do you think?

B: Well, a car is ⁸ more comfortable (comfortable), but a bicycle

is ⁹ less expensive (expensive). How far do you travel every day?

G Look at the two photos below and think about how the places are different. Add your ideas to this chart. Your ideas can be facts or your opinions.

Natural places

- **quieter**
- **less stressful**

Urban places

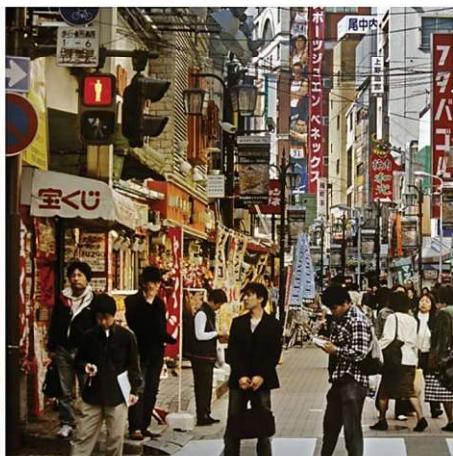
- **noisier**
- **more stressful**

▼ Nahuel Huapi National Park, Argentina



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▼ Asakusa District, Tokyo, Japan



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GRAMMAR FOR SPEAKING Superlative Adjectives

We use superlative adjectives to talk about the difference between three or more people, places, or things.

Adjectives with	Example	Superlative form
one syllable	tall, large	the tallest, the largest
two syllables ending in -y	happy, pretty	the happiest, the prettiest
two or more syllables	interesting	the most/least interesting
irregular adjectives	good, bad	the best, the worst

We often use the superlative to compare parts of a group or category.

*The blue whale is **the biggest** animal on the planet.*

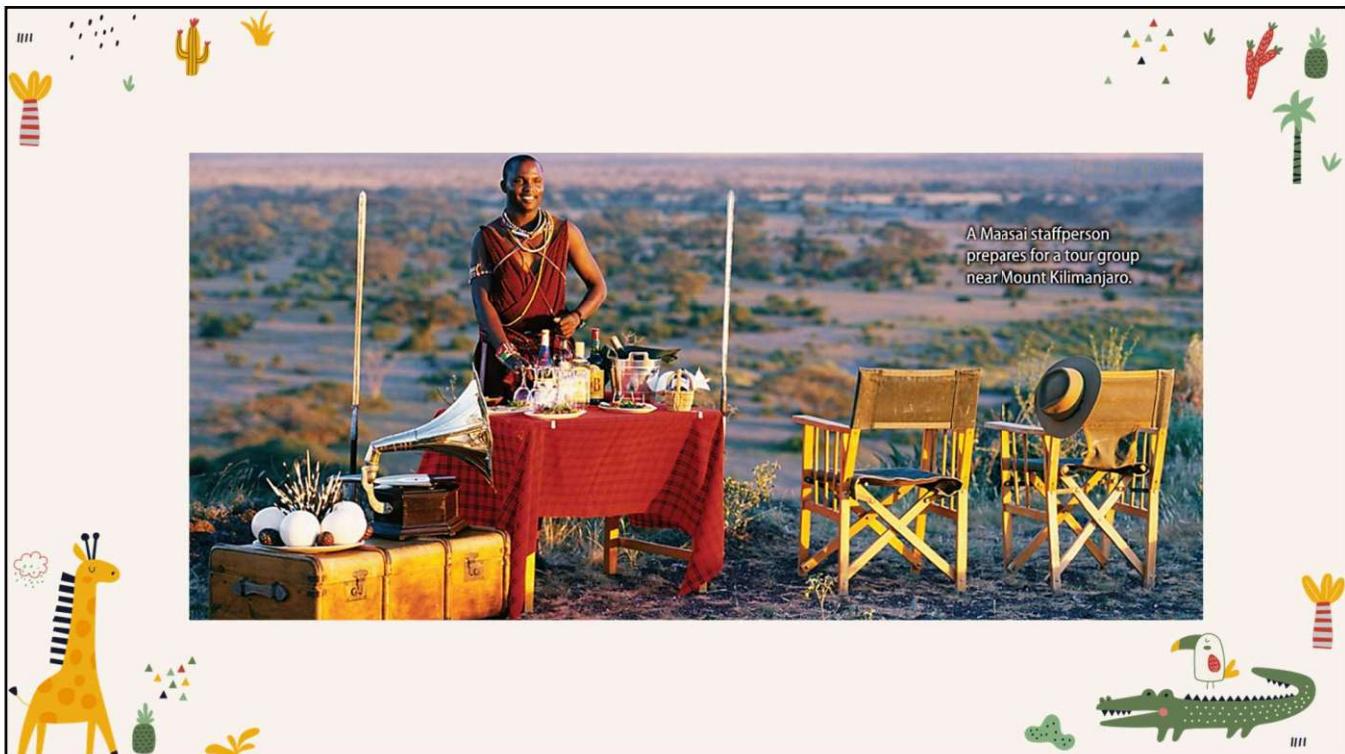
*The Little Penguin in New Zealand and Australia is **the smallest** kind of penguin.*



A Tourists often ask questions like the ones below. Complete the questions with superlative adjectives.

- What's the most popular place for tourists? (popular)
- Which area has the most beautiful scenery? (beautiful)
- What's the oldest building in your city? (old)
- What's the least expensive hotel? (less/expensive)
- What's the largest park in your city? (large)
- Which restaurant has the most traditional food? (traditional)
- Where is the best place to go shopping? (good)
- What is the highest place in the city? (high)
- What's the quickest way to travel around town? (quick)
- Where is the most interesting place to see nature and wildlife? (interesting)





D Read this text from a TV advertisement for eco-tourism. Choose the correct words. Then listen and check your answers.

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ENJOY AN ECO VACATION

This year, why not take a ¹(more / most) environmentally friendly holiday? Our eco-hotel in southern Kenya offers you the ²(more / most) comfortable rooms in the area. It has views of Africa's ³(most / least) beautiful scenery, including its ⁴(higher / highest) mountain—Mount Kilimanjaro. Our hotel is next to the famous Kimana wildlife reserve where you can see lions, elephants, cheetahs, and zebras. ⁵(A / The) most important goal of the hotel is to help this wildlife, so part of your money helps the reserve. Our hotel also runs on solar power, and all the food comes from local farmers. So we have ⁶(the best / @ better) environmental record than other hotels in the area. What are you waiting for? Book now for ⁷(a more amazing / the most amazing) trip of a lifetime.



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SPEAKING SKILL Compare and Contrast

When we compare and contrast ideas, we often use the following words and phrases.

- **To signal differences:** *in contrast, however, on the other hand*
*The park in our city is a relaxing place. **In contrast**, the city center is very noisy and more stressful.*
- **To signal similarities:** *similarly, in the same way, likewise*
*Natural places can be fun. **Likewise**, urban areas can be fun—but for different reasons.*

We often use these words and phrases in more formal situations, such as presenting an argument. In informal situations, we often use *but* and *too*.

E Compare and contrast these things with a partner. Use words and phrases from the Speaking Skill box.

Possible answers: *. In contrast,*

1. Cars allow you to travel places quickly */* bicycles are slower but less expensive.

. Similarly,

2. Cycling is excellent exercise */* walking is also a good way to exercise.

. However,

3. Lions are beautiful to look at */* they can be very dangerous.

. Likewise,

4. Watching sports is fun */* playing sports is fun.

. On the other hand,

5. Plastic is a useful material */* it's very bad for the environment.

. In the same way,

6. The tourism business creates jobs */* the leisure industry creates jobs.

> *Cars allow you to travel places quickly. In contrast, bicycles are slower but less expensive.*

Similarly, However, Likewise, On the other hand, In the same way,



PRACTICE: NATURAL TOURIST ATTRACTIOnS



The view from the top of the mountain was absolutely _____,
leaving everyone speechless.



breathtaking/ picture-perfect



Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

Tourists love the _____ of this remote beach, which felt like a hidden paradise.



unspoiled beauty



As the sun set, the _____ painted the sky in shades of orange and pink.



golden sunlight



Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

The _____ was a breathtaking sight, with water flowing gracefully over the rocks.



cascading waterfall



We spent the afternoon kayaking on the _____, admiring its beauty and clarity.

crystal-clear lake



Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

The _____ is filled with vibrant flowers and grasses, which creates a stunning contrast against the rough peaks.

alpine meadow



**Standing at the edge of the grand mountain, I felt _____
the vastness before me as it was was unimaginable.**

in awe of



Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

Visiting the tranquil beach provided a _____ from the stresses of daily life.

peaceful retreat



The performance by the local tribe was so moving
that I left the event feeling _____.

deeply moved

Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

After breakfast, we decided to _____ nearby _____ to cool off from the heat.

swim in the ... lake

The guided tour allowed us to _____ through the ancient cave filled with giant stalactites and learn about its history.

explore

Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

As the sun began to set, we gathered to _____ and capture the moment on camera.

take photos/ enjoy the sunset

This park has become a _____ for families looking to enjoy nature and spend time together.



popular destination



Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

The city's white-sand beach is a _____ that attracts both locals and tourists year-round.



tourist hotspot



It is considered a _____, as many travelers include it in their travel itineraries.



must-see location



Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

The national park is known for its _____, with various species of plants and animals thriving there.



rich biodiversity



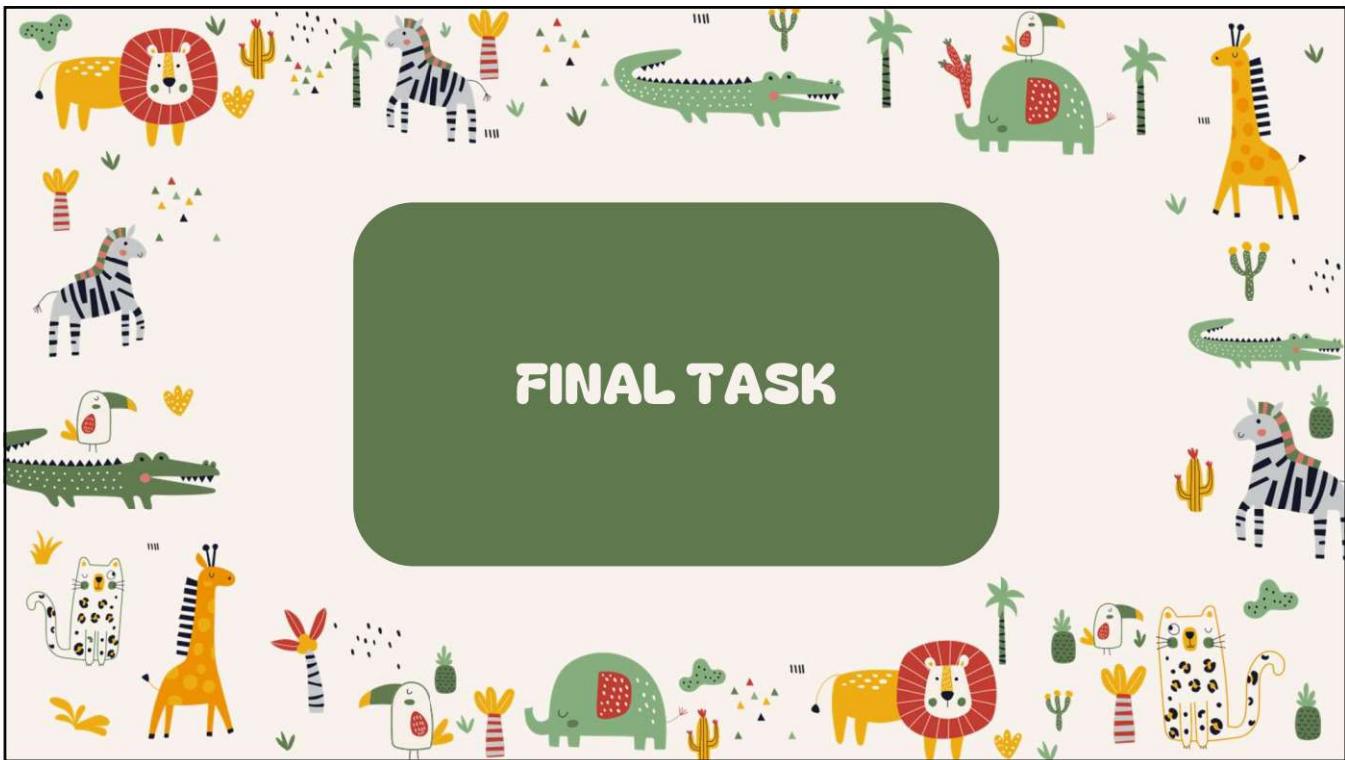
Tourists flock to this small town for its _____, which offers an escape from the hustle and bustle of city life.

tranquil surroundings

Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

We were impressed by the island's _____ with no pollution.

pristine environment



FINAL TASK

Describe a popular natural tourist attraction in your country

You should say:

- What the place is
- Where it is located
- What activities visitors can do there

And explain why it is popular with tourists

