

Comparison 2 (**much better / any better / better and better / the sooner the better**)

A

Before comparatives you can use:

**much    a lot    far (= a lot)    a bit    a little    slightly (= a little)**

- ☐ Let's go by car. It's **much cheaper**. (or **a lot cheaper**)
- ☐ 'How do you feel now?' '**Much better**, thanks.'
- ☐ Don't go by train. It's **a lot more expensive**. (or **much more expensive**)
- ☐ Could you speak **a bit more slowly**? (or **a little more slowly**)
- ☐ This bag is **slightly heavier** than the other one.
- ☐ Her illness was **far more serious** than we thought at first. (or **much more serious / a lot more serious**)

B

You can use **any** and **no** + comparative (**any longer / no bigger** etc.):

- ☐ I've waited long enough. I'm not waiting **any longer**. (= not even a little longer)
- ☐ We expected their apartment to be very big, but it's **no bigger** than ours. or ... it **isn't any bigger** than ours. (= not even a little bigger)
- ☐ How do you feel now? Do you feel **any better**?
- ☐ This hotel is better than the other one, and it's **no more expensive**.

C

**Better and better / more and more** etc.We repeat comparatives (**better and better** etc.) to say that something changes continuously:

- ☐ Your English is improving. It's getting **better and better**.
- ☐ The city has grown fast in recent years. It's got **bigger and bigger**.
- ☐ As I listened to his story, I became **more and more convinced** that he was lying.
- ☐ These days **more and more people** are learning English.

D

**The ... the ...**You can say **the** (sooner/bigger/more etc.) **the better**:

- ☐ 'What time shall we leave?' '**The sooner the better**.' (= as soon as possible)
- ☐ A: What sort of box do you want? A big one?  
B: Yes, **the bigger the better**. (= as big as possible)
- ☐ When you're travelling, **the less luggage** you have **the better**.

We also use **the ... the ...** to say that one thing depends on another thing:

- ☐ **The warmer** the weather, **the better** I feel. (= if the weather is warmer, I feel better)
- ☐ **The sooner** we leave, **the earlier** we will arrive.
- ☐ **The younger** you are, **the easier** it is to learn.
- ☐ **The more expensive** the hotel, **the better** the service.
- ☐ **The more** electricity you use, **the higher** your bill will be.
- ☐ **The more** I thought about the plan, **the less** I liked it.

E

**Older and elder**The comparative of **old** is **older**:

- ☐ David looks **older** than he really is.

You can use **elder** (or **older**) when you talk about people in a family. You can say (my/your etc.) **elder sister/brother/daughter/son**:

- ☐ **My elder sister** is a TV producer. (or **My older sister** ...)

We say 'my **elder sister**', but we do not say that 'somebody is elder':

- ☐ My sister is **older** than me. (not **elder** than me)