

UNIT
104Comparison (1) – **cheaper, more expensive** etc.

A

Look at these examples:

How shall we travel? By car or by train?
 Let's go by car. It's **cheaper**.
 Don't go by train. It's **more expensive**.
Cheaper and more expensive are *comparative* forms.

After comparatives you can use **than** (see also Unit 106):

- It's **cheaper** to go by car **than** by train.
- Going by train is **more expensive than** going by car.

B

The comparative form is -er or more...

We use **-er** for short words (one syllable):

cheap → cheaper **fast** → faster
large → larger **thin** → thinner

We also use **-er** for two-syllable words that end in -y (-y → -ier):

lucky → luckier **early** → earlier
easy → easier **pretty** → prettier

For spelling, see Appendix 6.

Compare these examples:

- You're **older** than me.
- The exam was quite easy – **easier** than we expected.
- Can you walk a bit **faster**?
- I'd like to have a **bigger** car.
- Last night I went to bed **earlier** than usual.

We use **more...** for longer words (two syllables or more):

more modern **more serious**
more expensive **more comfortable**

We use **more...** for adverbs that end in -ly:

more slowly **more seriously**
more quietly **more carefully**

Also: **more often**but: **earlier** (*not* 'more early')

- You're **more patient** than me.
- The exam was quite difficult – **more difficult** than we expected.
- Can you walk a bit **more slowly**?
- I'd like to have a **more reliable** car.
- I don't play tennis much these days. I used to play **more often**.

You can use **-er** or **more...** with some two-syllable adjectives, especially:

quiet **clever** **narrow** **shallow** **simple**

- It's too noisy here. Can we go somewhere **quieter** / **more quiet**?

C

These adjectives and adverbs have irregular comparative forms:

good/well → **better**:

- The garden looks **better** since you tidied it up.
- I know him **well** – probably **better** than anybody else.

bad/badly → **worse**:

- 'Is your headache better?' 'No, it's **worse**.'
- He did very badly in the exam – **worse** than expected.

far → **further** (*or farther*):

- It's a long walk from here to the station – **further** than I thought. (*or ...farther than...*)

Further (*but not* 'farther') can also mean 'more' or 'additional':

- Let me know if you hear any **further** news. (= any more news)

Comparison (2) and (3) → **UNITS 105–106**Superlatives (**cheapest/most expensive** etc.) → **UNIT 107**

EXERCISES

1 Complete the sentences using a comparative form (older / more important etc.).

- 1 It's too noisy here. Can we go somewhere *quieter*?
- 2 This coffee is very weak. I like it a bit
- 3 The hotel was surprisingly big. I expected it to be
- 4 The hotel was surprisingly cheap. I expected it to be
- 5 The weather is too cold in this country. I'd like to live somewhere
- 6 My job is a bit boring sometimes. I'd like to do something
- 7 I was surprised how easy it was to use the computer. I thought it would be
- 8 Your work isn't very good. I'm sure you can do
- 9 Don't worry. The situation isn't so bad. It could be
- 10 I was surprised we got here so quickly. I expected the journey to take
- 11 You're talking very loudly. Can you speak a bit
- 12 You hardly ever phone me. Why don't you phone me
- 13 You're standing too near the camera. Can you move a bit away?
- 14 You were a bit depressed yesterday but you look today.

2 Complete the sentences. Each time use the comparative form of one of the words in the list. Use *than* where necessary.

big	crowded	early	easily	high	important
interested	peaceful	reliable	serious	simple	thin

- 1 I was feeling tired last night, so I went to bed *earlier than* usual.
- 2 I'd like to have a *more reliable* car. The one I've got keeps breaking down.
- 3 Unfortunately her illness was we thought at first.
- 4 You look Have you lost weight?
- 5 I want a flat. We don't have enough space here.
- 6 He doesn't study very hard. He's in having a good time.
- 7 Health and happiness are money.
- 8 The instructions were very complicated. They could have been
- 9 There were a lot of people on the bus. It was usual.
- 10 I like living in the countryside. It's living in a town.
- 11 You'll find your way around the town if you have a good map.
- 12 In some parts of the country, prices are in others.

3 Read the situations and complete the sentences. Use a comparative form (-er or more...).

- 1 Yesterday the temperature was nine degrees. Today it's only six degrees.
It's *colder today than it was yesterday*.
- 2 The journey takes four hours by car and five hours by train.
It takes
- 3 Dave and I went for a run. I ran ten kilometres. Dave stopped after eight kilometres.
I ran
- 4 Chris and Joe both did badly in the exam. Chris got 20% but Joe only got 15%.
Joe did
- 5 I expected my friends to arrive at about 4 o'clock. In fact they arrived at 2.30.
My friends
- 6 You can go by bus or by train. The buses run every 30 minutes. The trains run every hour.
The buses
- 7 We were very busy at work today. We're not usually as busy as that.
We

UNIT
105

Comparison (2)

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 It's a lot cheaper.)
- Don't go by train. It's **a lot more expensive**. (or It's **much more expensive**.)
- Could you speak **a bit more slowly**? (or ...speak **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**... or ...**a lot more serious**...)

B

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

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

C

Harder and harder / **more and more** / **more and more difficult** etc.

We repeat comparatives like this (...and...) to say that something is changing continuously:

- It's becoming **harder and harder** to find a job.
- It's becoming **more and more difficult** to find a job.
- Your English is improving. It's getting **better and better**.
- These days **more and more** people are learning English.

D

The...the better

Study these examples:

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

We also use **the...the...** (with two comparatives) 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 sooner** 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 elderThe comparative of old is **older**:

- Tom looks **older** than he really is.

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

- My **elder brother** is a pilot. (or My **older brother**...)

We say 'my **elder brother**' but we do not say that 'somebody is **elder**...':

- My brother is **older** than me. (not 'elder than me')

For **eldest**, see Unit 107D.

EXERCISES

Use the words in brackets to complete the sentences. Use **much / a bit etc.** + a comparative form. Use **than** where necessary.

- 1 Her illness was **much more serious than** we thought at first. (much / serious)
- 2 This bag is too small. I need something (much / big)
- 3 I'm afraid the problem is it seems. (much / complicated)
- 4 You looked depressed this morning but you look now. (a bit / happy)
- 5 I enjoyed our visit to the museum. It was I expected. (far / interesting)
- 6 You're driving too fast. Could you drive? (a bit / slowly)
- 7 It's to learn a foreign language in the country where it is spoken. (a lot / easy)
- 8 I thought she was younger than me but in fact she's (slightly / old)

2 Complete the sentences using **any/no + a comparative**. Use **than** where necessary.

- 1 I'm fed up with waiting. I'm not waiting **any longer**....
- 2 I'm sorry I'm a bit late but I couldn't get here
- 3 This shop isn't expensive. The prices are anywhere else.
- 4 I must stop for a rest. I can't walk
- 5 The traffic isn't particularly bad today. It's usual.

3 Complete the sentences using the structure in Section C (...and...).

- 1 It's becoming **harder and harder** to find a job. (hard)
- 2 That hole in your pullover is getting (big)
- 3 My bags seemed to get as I carried them. (heavy)
- 4 As I waited for my interview, I became (nervous)
- 5 As the day went on, the weather got (bad)
- 6 Travelling is becoming (expensive)
- 7 Since she has been in Britain, her English has got (good)
- 8 As the conversation went on, he became (talkative)

4 These sentences are like those in Section D. Use the word(s) in brackets (in the correct form) to complete the sentences.

- 1 I like warm weather. The warmer the weather, **the better I feel**... (feel)
- 2 I didn't really like him when we first met.
But the more I got to know him, (like)
- 3 If you're in business, you want to make a profit.
The more goods you sell, (profit)
- 4 It's hard to concentrate when you're tired.
The more tired you are, (hard)
- 5 She had to wait a very long time.
The longer she waited, (impatient/become)

5 Which is correct, **older** or **elder**? Or both of them?

- 1 My **older / elder** brother is a pilot. (older and elder are both correct)
- 2 I'm surprised Diane is only 25. I thought she was **older / elder**.
- 3 Ann's younger sister is still at school. Her **older / elder** sister is a nurse.
- 4 Martin is **older / elder** than his brother.

UNIT
106Comparison (3) – **as...as / than**

A

Study this example situation:



Shirley, Henry and Arthur are all millionaires. They are all very rich.

Shirley has £10 million, Henry has £8 million and Arthur has £2 million. So:

Henry is rich.

He is **richer than** Arthur.

But he **isn't as rich as** Shirley. (= Shirley is **richer than** he is)

Some more examples of **not as... (as)**:

- Tom **isn't as old as** he looks. (= he looks **older than** he is)
- The city centre **wasn't as crowded** this morning **as** it usually is. (= it is usually more crowded)
- Jenny **didn't do as well** in the exam **as** she had hoped. (= she had hoped to do better)
- 'The weather is better today, isn't it?' 'Yes, it's **not as cold**.' (= yesterday was colder)
- I **don't know as many people as** you do. (= you know **more people**)

You can also say '**not so... (as)**':

- It's not warm but it **isn't so cold as** yesterday. (= ...it **isn't as cold as**...)

Less... (than) is similar to **not as... (as)**:

- I spent **less money than** you. (= I **didn't spend as much money**...)
- The city centre was **less crowded than** usual. (= it **wasn't as crowded**...)

B

You can use **as...as** (but not '**so...as**') in positive sentences and in questions:

- I'm sorry I'm late. I got here **as fast as** I could.
- There's plenty of food. You can have **as much as** you like.
- Let's walk. It's **just as quick as** taking the bus.
- Can you send me the money **as soon as possible**, please?

Also: **twice as...as**, **three times as...as** etc.:

- Petrol is **twice as expensive as** it was a few years ago.
- Their house is about **three times as big as** ours.

C

We say **the same as** (*not* 'the same like'):

- Ann's salary is **the same as** mine. *or* Ann gets **the same salary as** me.
- Tom is **the same age as** George.
- 'What would you like to drink?' 'I'll have **the same as** you.'

D

Than me / than I am etc.

We usually say:

- You are taller **than me**. (*not* 'than I')
- He is not as clever **as her**. (*not* 'as she')

After **than/as** it is more usual to say **me/him/her/them/us** when there is no verb. Compare:

- | | | |
|--|------------|---------------------------------------|
| • You are taller than I am . | <i>but</i> | You are taller than me . |
| • They have more money than we have . | <i>but</i> | They have more money than us . |
| • I can't run as fast as he can. | <i>but</i> | I can't run as fast as him . |

EXERCISES

11 Complete the sentences using *as...as*.

- 1 I'm quite tall but you are taller. I'm not *as tall as you*.
- 2 My salary is high but yours is higher. My salary isn't
- 3 You know a bit about cars but I know more. You don't
- 4 It's still cold but it was colder yesterday. It isn't
- 5 I still feel a bit tired but I felt a lot more tired yesterday.
I don't
- 6 They've lived here for quite a long time but we've lived here longer.
They haven't
- 7 I was a bit nervous before the interview but usually I'm a lot more nervous.
I wasn't

12 Rewrite these sentences so that they have the same meaning.

- 1 Jack is younger than he looks. Jack isn't *as old as he looks*.
- 2 I didn't spend as much money as you. You *spent more money than me*.
- 3 The station was nearer than I thought. The station wasn't
- 4 The meal didn't cost as much as I expected. The meal
- 5 I go out less than I used to. I don't
- 6 Her hair isn't as long as it used to be. She used to
- 7 I know them better than you do. You don't
- 8 There were fewer people at this meeting than at the last one.
There weren't

13 Complete the sentences using *as...as*. Choose one of the following:

bad comfortable ~~fast~~ long often quietly soon well well-qualified

- 1 I'm sorry I'm a bit late. I got here *as fast as* I could.
- 2 It was a difficult question. I answered it I could.
- 3 'How long can I stay with you?' 'You can stay you like.'
- 4 I need the information quickly, so please let me know possible.
- 5 I like to keep fit, so I go swimming I can.
- 6 I didn't want to wake anybody, so I came in I could.

In the following sentences use *just as...as*.

- 7 I'm going to sleep on the floor. It's sleeping in that hard bed.
- 8 Why did he get the job rather than me? I'm him.
- 9 At first I thought you were nice but really you're everybody else.

14 Write sentences using the same *as*.

- 1 Sally and Kate are both 22 years old. *Sally is the same age as Kate*.
- 2 You and I both have dark brown hair. Your hair
- 3 I arrived at 10.25 and so did you. I
- 4 My birthday is 5 April. Tom's birthday is 5 April too. My

15 Complete the sentences with *than... or as... or as... as*.

- 1 I can't reach as high as you. You are taller *than me*.
- 2 He doesn't know much. I know more
- 3 I don't work particularly hard. Most people work as hard
- 4 We were very surprised. Nobody was more surprised
- 5 She's not a very good player. I'm a better player
- 6 They've been very lucky. I wish we were as lucky

UNIT
107Superlatives – **the longest / the most enjoyable** etc.

A

Study these examples:

What is **the longest** river in the world?What was **the most enjoyable** holiday you've ever had?Longest and most enjoyable are *superlative* forms.

B

The superlative form is **-est** or **most...** . In general, we use **-est** for short words and **most...** for longer words. (The rules are the same as those for the comparative – see Unit 104.)

	long → longest	hot → hottest	easy → easiest	hard → hardest
but	most famous	most boring	most difficult	most expensive

These adjectives are irregular:

good → best	bad → worst	far → furthest
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For spelling, see Appendix 6.

C

We normally use **the** before a superlative (**the longest / the most famous** etc.):

- Yesterday was **the hottest** day of the year.
- That film was really boring. It was **the most boring** film I've ever seen.
- She is a really nice person – one of **the nicest** people I know.
- Why does he always come to see me at **the worst** possible moment?

Compare:

- This hotel is **the cheapest** in town. (*superlative*)
- This hotel is **cheaper** than all the others in town. (*comparative*)

D

Oldest and eldestThe superlative of old is **oldest**:

- That church is **the oldest** building in the town. (*not 'the eldest'*)

We use **eldest** (*or oldest*) when we are talking about people in a family:

- My **eldest** son is 13 years old. (*or My oldest son...*)
- Are you **the eldest** in your family? (*or ...the oldest...*)

E

After superlatives we use **in** with places (towns, buildings etc.):

- What is the longest river **in the world**? (*not 'of the world'*)
- We had a lovely room. It was one of the nicest **in the hotel**. (*not 'of the hotel'*)

We also use **in** for organisations and groups of people (a class / team / company etc.):

- Who is the best student **in the class**? (*not 'of the class'*)

We normally use **of** for a period of time:

- What was the happiest day **of your life**?
- Yesterday was the hottest day **of the year**.

F

We often use the *present perfect* (I **have done**) after a superlative (see also Unit 8A):

- What's **the best** film you've **ever seen**?
- That was **the most delicious** meal I've **had** for a long time.

G

Sometimes we use **most** + adjective to mean 'very':

- The book you lent me was **most interesting**. (= very interesting)
- Thank you for the money. It was **most generous** of you. (= very generous)

EXERCISES

11 Complete the sentences. Use a superlative (-est or most...) + a preposition.

- 1 It's a very nice room. It is the nicest room in the hotel.
- 2 It's a very cheap restaurant. It's the town.
- 3 It was a very happy day. It was my life.
- 4 She's a very intelligent student. She the class.
- 5 It's a very valuable painting. It the gallery.
- 6 Spring is a very busy time for me. It the year.

In the following sentences use one of + a superlative + a preposition.

- 7 It's a very nice room. It is one of the nicest rooms in the hotel.
- 8 He's a very rich man. He's one the world.
- 9 It's a very old castle. It Britain.
- 10 She's a very good player. She the team.
- 11 It was a very bad experience. It my life.
- 12 He's a very dangerous criminal. He the country.

12 Complete the sentences. Use a superlative (-est or most...) or a comparative (-er or more...).

- 1 We stayed at the cheapest hotel in the town. (cheap)
- 2 Our hotel was cheaper than all the others in the town. (cheap)
- 3 The United States is very large but Canada is (large)
- 4 What's river in the world? (long)
- 5 He was a bit depressed yesterday but he looks today. (happy)
- 6 It was an awful day. It was day of my life. (bad)
- 7 What is sport in your country? (popular)
- 8 Everest is mountain in the world. It is than any other mountain. (high)
- 9 We had a great holiday. It was one of the holidays we've ever had. (enjoyable)
- 10 I prefer this chair to the other one. It's (comfortable)
- 11 What's way of getting from here to the station? (quick)
- 12 Mr and Mrs Brown have got three daughters. is 14 years old. (old)

13 What do you say in these situations? Use a superlative + ...ever... Use the words given in brackets (in the correct form).

- 1 You've just been to the cinema. The film was extremely boring. You tell your friend: (boring/film/see) That's the most boring film I've ever seen.
- 2 Your friend has just told you a joke, which you think is very funny. You say: (funny/joke/hear) That's
- 3 You're drinking coffee with a friend. It's really good coffee. You say: (good/coffee/taste) This
- 4 You are talking to a friend about Mary. Mary is very patient. You tell your friend about her: (patient/person/meet) She
- 5 You have just run ten kilometres. You've never run further than this. You say to your friend: (far/run) That
- 6 You decided to give up your job. Now you think this was a bad mistake. You say to your friend: (bad/mistake/make) It
- 7 Your friend meets a lot of people, some of them famous. You ask your friend: (famous/person/meet?) Who

Unit
73

Comparative phrases and clauses

- A** We use **as + adjective/adverb + as** to say that something or someone is like something or someone else, or that one situation is like another:
- ☐ Was the film **as funny as** his last one? ☐ I came round **as quickly as** I could.
- Negative forms of sentences like this can use either **not as** or **not so**. In formal speech and writing it is more common to use **less + adjective + than**:
- ☐ The gap between the sides is **not as/so wide as** it was. (*or ...is less wide than it was.*)
- B** If we put a singular countable noun between an adjective and the second **as**, we use **a/an** in front of the noun:
- ☐ Despite his disability, he tried to lead **as normal a life as possible**. (*not ...as normal life as...*)
- ☐ She was **as patient a teacher as** anyone could have had. (*not ...as patient teacher as...*)
- The negative form of sentences like this can use either **not as** or sometimes **not such**:
- ☐ It's **not as quiet a place** (*or ...not such a quiet place ...*) as it used to be.
- Notice that we use **not as + adjective + a/an + noun** but **not such a/an + adjective + noun**.
- We can use **how, so** and **too** followed by an adjective in a similar way:
- ☐ **How significant a role** did he play in your life?
- ☐ It's not quite **so straightforward a problem as** it might at first seem.
- ☐ 'Conspiracy' is perhaps **too strong a word**. ☐ **How big a piece** do you want?
- C** We also use **as much/many as** or **as little/few as** to say that a quantity or amount is larger or smaller than expected. **Many** and **few** are preferred before numbers; **much** and **little** are preferred with amounts (e.g. \$5, 20%) and distances (e.g. 3 metres):
- ☐ There are a small number of people involved, possibly **as few as** twenty.
- ☐ Prices have increased by **as much as** 300 per cent.
- D** We can use **not + adjective/adverb + enough + to-infinitive** to mean that there isn't as much as is necessary to do something:
- ☐ I'm not **tall enough to reach**. ☐ He didn't speak **loudly enough to be heard**.
- We can use **sufficiently** before adjectives to express a similar meaning to **enough**. **Sufficiently** is often preferred in more formal contexts:
- ☐ She didn't play **sufficiently well** to qualify. (*or ...well enough to qualify.*)
- E** We can use **too + adjective/adverb + to-infinitive** to mean 'more than necessary, possible, etc.' to do something:
- ☐ They arrived **too late to get** seats. ☐ It moved **too fast to see** it clearly.
- If we need to mention the things or people involved in the action, we do this with **for...**:
- ☐ The suitcase was **too small (for him) to get** all his clothes in.
- In rather formal English we can use **too + adjective + a/an + noun**:
- ☐ I hope you haven't had **too tiring a day**. (*not ...a too tiring day.*)
- (In a less formal style we might say 'I hope your day hasn't been too tiring.')
- F** We can use **so + adjective/adverb + that-clause** to say that something existed or happened to such a degree that a specified result occurred (see also Unit 81):
- ☐ It's **so simple that** even I can do it. ☐ He came in **so quietly that** I didn't hear him.
- Less often we use **so + adjective/adverb + as + to-infinitive** with a similar meaning. Compare:
- ☐ The difference was **so small that** it wasn't worth arguing about. *and*
- ☐ The difference was **so small as to not be** worth arguing about. (= Because the difference was so small, it wasn't worth arguing about)
- We can use **go so/as far as + to-infinitive** to talk about actions that are surprising or extreme:
- ☐ One furious woman **went so/as far as to throw** tomatoes at the minister.

Exercises

Unit 73

73.1 Complete these sentences with *as...as* or *not as/such...as*. Sometimes two answers are possible. Use the words in brackets and add any other necessary words. (B)

- 1 It's not such a polluted city now as not as polluted a city now as it was 10 years ago. (*not/ polluted/ city now*)
- 2 The Downtown Hotel is Strand Hotel. (*not/ pleasant/ place to stay*)
- 3 The President's address to the nation is he is ever likely to make in his career. (*important/ speech*)
- 4 It was I first thought. (*not/ big/ problem*)
- 5 Theresa's dog is I've ever seen. (*ferocious/ animal*)
- 6 She's she claims to be. (*not/ fluent/ Greek speaker*)

73.2 Complete these sentences with *as much as*, *as many as*, *as little as*, or *as few as*. (C)

- 1 When it was really hot I was having four showers a days.
- 2 The elephant population may soon fall to 1,000 from 5,000 10 years ago.
- 3 At the end of the 200-metre race there was 50 metres between the first and second runners.
- 4 5,000 people phoned in to complain about last night's TV programme.
- 5 Lit continuously, the life of a light bulb varies from two weeks to three months.
- 6 Some days there were three or four students at his lectures.
- 7 We don't use much electricity. Sometimes our bill is £20 a month.
- 8 The country spends 25% of its income on defence.

73.3 Match the sentences to make ones using *so + adjective + as + to-infinitive*, as in 1. (F)

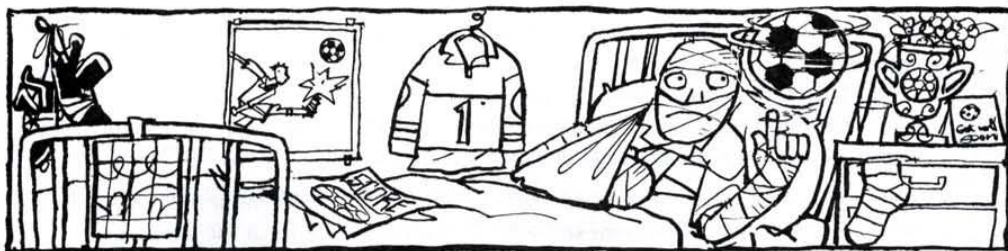
- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 The noise from the factory was loud. | a It was nearly illegible. |
| 2 Her handwriting was untidy. | b It was insignificant. |
| 3 The bookcase was heavy. | c It was unplayable. |
| 4 The CD was badly scratched. | d It prevented me sleeping. |
| 5 The plot of the novel was complicated. | e It was almost impossible to move it. |
| 6 The difference between the results was small. | f It was completely incomprehensible. |
- 1+d The noise from the factory was so loud as to prevent me sleeping.

73.4 Here is part of an interview with the manager of a football team. His best player, Alan Green, has just suffered a serious injury. Correct any mistakes in the underlined text. (A–F)

INTERVIEWER: (1) How serious injury is it? Is it (2) so serious as has been claimed in the newspapers? Some people are saying Alan Green will never play international football again.

MANAGER: Well, it's certainly (3) enough bad to keep him out of football for at least 6 months. He's obviously (4) not so fit as he used to be and even he would admit that he's (5) not such good player as he was in his 20s. But I wouldn't (6) go so far to say that he'll never play for the national team again. I know him (7) sufficiently well enough to say that he will consider his future carefully before making any major decisions.

INTERVIEWER: Well, we all wish him (8) as speedy recovery as possible...



ANSWERS

Intermediate

UNIT 103 – 107

UNIT 103

103.1

- 2 quite a good voice.
- 3 quite a long way.
- 4 quite a busy day.
- 5 quite a nice time.
- 6 quite a strong wind.
- 7 quite a frightening experience.
- 8 quite a lot of mistakes.

103.2

- 2 quite well but it's rather noisy
- 3 rather long but quite interesting
- 4 quite a hard worker but he's rather slow
- 5 rather disappointed ... quite pleased
- 6 quite a well-paid job but it's rather hard work
- 7 quite near us but it's rather difficult...

103.3

- 3 more than a little...
- 4 completely
- 5 more than a little...
- 6 more than a little...
- 7 completely

103.4

- 2 quite safe.
- 3 quite impossible.
- 4 quite right.
- 5 quite different.
- 6 quite unnecessary.
- 7 quite sure.
- 8 quite amazing.

UNIT 104

104.1

- 2 stronger
- 3 smaller
- 4 more expensive
- 5 warmer
- 6 more interesting
- 7 more difficult
- 8 better
- 9 worse
- 10 longer
- 11 more quietly
- 12 more often
- 13 further
- 14 happier / more cheerful

104.2

- 3 more serious than
- 4 thinner
- 5 bigger
- 6 more interested
- 7 more important than
- 8 simpler / more simple
- 9 more crowded than

- 10 more peaceful than
- 11 more easily
- 12 higher than

104.3

- 2 It takes longer by train than by car.
- 3 I ran further than Dave.
- 4 Joe did worse than Chris.
- 5 My friends arrived earlier than I expected.
- 6 The buses run more often than the trains. *or* ...run more frequently than the trains. *or* The buses are more frequent than the trains.
- 7 We were busier than usual at work today. *or* We were busier at work today than usual.

UNIT 105

105.1

- 2 much bigger
- 3 much more complicated than
- 4 a bit happier
- 5 far more interesting than
- 6 a bit more slowly
- 7 a lot easier
- 8 slightly older

105.2

- 2 any earlier
- 3 no more expensive than
- 4 any further
- 5 no worse than

105.3

- 2 bigger and bigger
- 3 heavier and heavier
- 4 more and more nervous
- 5 worse and worse
- 6 more and more expensive
- 7 better and better
- 8 more and more talkative

105.4

- 2 the more I liked him *or* the more I got to like him
- 3 the more your profit (will be) *or* the higher your profit (will be) *or* the more profit you will make
- 4 the harder it is to concentrate
- 5 the more impatient she became

105.5

- 2 older
- 3 older *or* elder
- 4 older

UNIT 106

106.1

- 2 as high as yours.
- 3 You don't know as much about cars as me. *or* ...as I do.
- 4 It isn't as cold today as it was yesterday.
- 5 I don't feel as tired today as I felt yesterday. *or* ...as I did...
- 6 They haven't lived here as long as us. *or* ...as we have.
- 7 I wasn't as nervous before the interview as I usually am. *or* ...as usual.

106.2

- 3 The station wasn't as far as I thought.
- 4 The meal cost less than I expected. / ...was cheaper than I expected. / ...wasn't as expensive as I expected.
- 5 I don't go out as much as I used to. / ...as often as I used to.
- 6 She used to have longer hair.
- 7 You don't know them as well as me. *or* ...as I do.
- 8 There weren't as many people at this meeting as at the last one.

106.3

- 2 as well as
- 3 as long as
- 4 as soon as
- 5 as often as
- 6 as quietly as
- 7 just as comfortable as
- 8 just as well-qualified as
- 9 just as bad as

106.4

- 2 Your hair is the same colour as mine.
- 3 I arrived at the same time as you (did).
- 4 My birthday is (on) the same day as Tom's. *or* My birthday is the same as Tom's.

106.5

- 2 than him / than he does
- 3 as me / as I do
- 4 than us / than we were
- 5 than her / than she is
- 6 as them / as they have been

UNIT 107

107.1

- 2 It's the cheapest restaurant in the town.
- 3 It was the happiest day of my life.

- 4 She is the most intelligent student in the class.
- 5 It is the most valuable painting in the gallery.
- 6 It is the busiest time of the year.
- 8 He's one of the richest men in the world.
- 9 It is one of the oldest castles in Britain.
- 10 She is one of the best players in the team.
- 11 It was one of the worst experiences of my life.
- 12 He is one of the most dangerous criminals in the country.

107.2

- 3 larger
- 4 the longest
- 5 happier
- 6 the worst
- 7 the most popular
- 8 the highest ... higher
- 9 most enjoyable
- 10 more comfortable
- 11 the quickest
- 12 The oldest *or* The eldest

107.3

- 2 That's the funniest joke I've ever heard.
- 3 This is the best coffee I've ever tasted.
- 4 She is the most patient person I've ever met.
- 5 That's the furthest (*or* farthest) I've ever run.
- 6 It *is/was* the worst mistake I've ever made.
- 7 Who is the most famous person you've ever met?

UNIT 108

108.1

- 3 Jim doesn't like football very much.
- 4 *right*
- 5 I ate my dinner quickly...
- 6 Are you going to invite a lot of people to the party?
- 7 *right*
- 8 Did you go to bed late last night?
- 9 *right*
- 10 *right*
- 11 I met a friend of mine on my way home.
- 12 I fell off my bicycle yesterday.

108.2

- 2 We won the game easily.
- 3 I closed the door quietly.
- 4 Diane speaks German quite well.
- 5 Tim watches television all the time.

Advanced

UNIT 73

71.3

- 1 ✓
- 2 ...to me in a friendly way/
manner/ fashion.
- 3 ✓ (or ...fine...)
- 4 ...flatly refused.
- 5 ✓ ('...very clear' is also possible
in informal contexts)
- 6 ... in a cowardly way/ manner/
fashion...
- 7 ...justly renowned.
- 8 ...slowly turned...
- 9 'thinly' is grammatically correct,
but some people would use
'thin' in informal contexts
- 10 ...loudly applauded...

UNIT 72

72.1

- 1 more scared
- 2 deeper *or* more deep (for
emphasis)
- 3 more pretty
- 4 colder *or* more cold (for
emphasis)
- 5 stronger
- 6 more real
- 7 longer; more winding
- 8 more naughty
- 9 more bored
- 10 harder
- 11 truer *or* more true (for emphasis)
- 12 more right

72.2

- 1 more useless
- 2 more complex
- 3 more clever *or* cleverer (more
usual)
- 4 more exciting
- 5 more wealthy *or* wealthier
(more usual)
- 6 more worried
- 7 more recent
- 8 more pleasant *or* pleasanter
(more usual)
- 9 more dirty *or* dirtier (more usual)
- 10 more powerful
- 11 more alert

72.3

'the' can be left out in 2, 4 and 5.

72.4

- 1 in
- 2 of
- 3 of
- 4 in *or* of (both are possible)
- 5 in

UNIT 73

73.1

- 2 The Downtown Hotel is not such
a pleasant place to stay as the
Strand Hotel. *or* The Downtown
Hotel is not as pleasant a place
to stay as the Strand Hotel.
- 3 The President's address to the
nation is as important a speech
as he is ever likely to make in
his career.

- 4 It wasn't such a big problem as
I first thought. *or* It wasn't as
big a problem as I first thought.
- 5 Theresa's dog is as ferocious an
animal as I've ever seen.
- 6 She's not such a fluent Greek
speaker as she claims to be. *or*
She's not as fluent a Greek
speaker as she claims to be.

73.2

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1 as many as | 5 as little as |
| 2 as few as | 6 as few as |
| 3 as much as | 7 as little as |
| 4 As many as | 8 as much as |

73.3

- 2 + a Her handwriting was so
untidy as to be nearly illegible.
- 3 + e The bookcase was so heavy
as to be almost impossible to
move.
- 4 + c The CD was so badly
scratched as to be unplayable.
- 5 + f The plot of the novel was so
complicated as to be
completely incomprehensible.
- 6 + b The difference between the
results was so small as to be
insignificant.

73.4

- 1 How serious an injury
- 2 as serious as
- 3 bad enough to
- 4 ✓ *or* not as fit as
- 5 not such a good player as *or* not
as good a player as
- 6 go so far as to say
- 7 sufficiently well *or* well enough
- 8 as speedy a recovery as possible

UNIT 74

74.1

- 1 I expect Sue to win the race
easily.
- 2 He regretted missing the concert
greatly. *or* He **greatly** regretted
missing the concert.
- 3 I **secretly** hated playing the
piano... (more likely than 'I
hated playing the piano secretly,
although my parents thought I
loved it.' This would mean that
my parents thought I loved
playing the piano secretly.)
- 4 He **calmly** started to walk
across... *or* He started to walk
calmly across...
- 5 She **kindly** offered to do the
work.
- 6 Ray **hurriedly** finished speaking
and sat down. *or* Ray finished
speaking **hurriedly** and sat down.
- 7 I **simply** don't remember putting
it down.
- 8 We look forward to hearing
from you **soon**.
- 9 They **deliberately** tried to ignore
me. *or* They tried to ignore me
deliberately.
- 10 I don't pretend to understand
the instructions **completely**.