

RELAXATION AND PLAY: Comparatives and superlatives

THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

- The focus is on a review of comparatives and superlatives.
- Both Latin American Spanish and Brazilian Portuguese always use the equivalent of *more* for comparatives and superlatives, with the equivalent of *than* (and also *that*) for the comparative and definite articles for the superlative. They have no equivalent to the *-er/-est* forms in English. This can lead to a variety of errors such as *Boston is more cold than San Francisco. ✗* and *San Francisco is the more beautiful city in the U.S.A. ✗*

ANSWERS

EXERCISE 1

- 1 Jordan is healthier than Bradley.
- 2 Bradley is older than Jordan. / Jordan is younger than Bradley.
- 3 Bradley is shorter than Jordan.
- 4 Jordan is fitter than Bradley.
- 5 Bradley is a worse basketball player than Jordan.
- 6 Jordan is younger than Bradley.

EXERCISE 2

- 1 fat – fatter (“fat” is the only adjective that doubles the consonant in the comparative form)
- 2 relaxing – more relaxing (all the other adjectives end in “y,” and form the comparative with “-ier”)
- 3 cheap – cheaper (“cheap” is the only adjective with a comparative that is formed with an “-er” suffix)
- 4 good – better (“good” is the only irregular adjective)
- 5 bad – worse (“bad” is the only irregular adjective)

EXERCISE 3

- 1 Maria is the oldest of her brothers and sisters.
- 2 Juan is the tallest in the class.
- 3 Carlos knows the funniest jokes in the class.
- 4 Guadalupe has the most interesting job in the class.
- 5 Victor is from the most beautiful city in the class.
- 6 Elisa is the fittest in the class.

EXERCISE 4

- 1 The English grammar practice class is the cheapest activity.
- 2 The American cooking class is earlier than the English and Internet class.
- 3 The English and Internet class is the latest activity.
- 4 The English grammar practice class is the shortest activity.
- 5 The American cooking class is the most expensive activity.
- 6 The English sports activities class is the longest activity.

PERSONALIZE IT!

- Ask the students to change the names in exercise 3 to names of other students in the class. Then they can ask questions to find out if their sentences are true or false.
- After exercise 4, ask the students to decide which activity they would like best. Ask the students to think of other after-school activities that would be a good way to practice their English.

RELAXATION AND PLAY

EXERCISE 1

Look at the pictures of Jordan and Bradley. Correct the mistakes. The mistakes are either grammatical or factual.



Bradley 32 years old Jordan 24 years old

Jordan is the taller than Bradley.

Jordan is taller than Bradley......

Bradley is thinner than Jordan.

Bradley is fatter than Jordan......

- 1 Jordan is healthier than Bradley.
.....
- 2 Bradley is younger than Jordan.
.....
- 3 Bradley is more short than Jordan.
.....
- 4 Jordan is the fitter than Bradley.
.....
- 5 Bradley is a badder basketball player than Jordan.
- 6 Jordan is younger that Bradley.
.....

EXERCISE 2

Find the word that is different in the comparative form and write it.

hot – tall – comfortable – short **more comfortable**.....

- 1 nice – cheap – fat – rich
- 2 easy – pretty – relaxing – dirty
- 3 relaxing – interesting – cheap – beautiful
.....
- 4 big – small – good – short – nice
.....
- 5 frightening – exciting – bad – difficult
.....

EXERCISE 3

Make sentences from the words. Use the superlative form.

Sofia / pretty / in the class.

Sofia is the prettiest in the class......

- 1 Maria / old / of her brothers and sisters.
.....
- 2 Juan / tall / in the class.
.....
- 3 Carlos / know / funny jokes / in the class.
.....
- 4 Guadalupe / have / interesting job / in the class.
.....
- 5 Victor / from / beautiful city / in the class.
.....
- 6 Elisa / fit / in the class.
.....

EXERCISE 4

Complete the sentences below about the after-school free time activities. Use comparatives and superlatives.

*The American cooking class is **more expensive**..... than the sports activities. (expensive)*

Activity	Time	Cost
English sports	4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	\$25
American cooking	5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	\$60
English and Internet	7:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.	\$45
English grammar practice	4:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	\$5

- 1 The English grammar practice class is activity. (cheap)
- 2 The American cooking class is than the English and Internet class. (early)
- 3 The English and Internet class is activity. (late)
- 4 The English grammar practice class is activity. (short)
- 5 The American cooking class is activity. (expensive)
- 6 The English sports activities class is the activity. (long)