

Comparative structures

Unit 2

2.1 Comparative structures

- Comparative and superlative adjectives are formed with *-er* and *-est* or *more / most* and *less / least*, unless they are irregular:

(regular)	difficult	more difficult	most difficult
	hot	hotter	hottest
(irregular)	good	better	best
	far	further	furthest

- Comparative and superlative adverbs are usually formed with *more* and *most*, unless they are irregular.

(regular)	slowly	more slowly	most slowly
(irregular)	badly	worse	worst
	well	better	best

- A few comparative and superlative adverbs are formed with *-er* and *-est*, like adjectives: *early, fast, hard, late, near, soon*.
I arrived a lot later than I realised.
Who gets up the earliest in your family?
- Some determiners also have comparative and superlative forms.
few fewer fewest
little less least
much / many more most

Qualifying comparatives

For more extreme comparatives (so) much far **намного** *Для экстремальных сравнений*

- ▶ It's far hotter than I expected.
- ▶ He eats so much more healthily than he used to.

For expressing surprise **even** **даже** *Выразить удивление*

- ❖ It was even more interesting than I had expected.

For modifying comparison **a little** **немного**, **slightly** **слегка**,
a bit **чуть**, **a lot** **намного** **сильно**, **no** **не** *Разнообразить сравнение*

- It's a bit colder than I expected.
- They played no worse than last time.

For modifying comparison **as ... as** by using **just** **только**, **almost** **почти**,
nearly **около**, **nowhere near** **никоим образом**, **nothing like** **ничего по сравнению**

- Silver is nowhere near as expensive as gold.
- He's just as competitive as his sister.

For expressing gradual change **comparative forms** *Для выражения медленных изменений*

- It's getting harder and harder to save money.

For comparative structures **чем ... тем** *Взаимодействие двух частей*

- The more I exercise, the fitter I get.

Comparison through a clause **после слова than** *Придаточным предложением*