Comparatives without “than”
Giving Suggestions

Materials developed by Katie Leite

Class Demographics:
  Primary Skills: Listening & Speaking
  Students: Adults
  Type of Institution: Adult Education, Continuing Education Program
  Proficiency Level: High Beginner
  Length of Class Time: 2 hours
  First Language Background: Varied
  Suggested Follow-up Lesson: The gerund form that occurs in the suggested action in these comparatives
Comparatives: Giving Suggestions
Language Presentation

Directions:
• Listen to the conversations.
• Practice the conversations with a partner.

Conversation 1
Mark and Ana are partners in class. They have to decide whether to write a paper or make a poster for their project.
Mark: Should we write the paper or make a poster?
Ana: I think writing a paper is harder.
Mark: Really?
Ana: Yes, making a poster is easier.
Mark: Ok, let's make a poster.

Conversation 2
Eli and Paulo work together. They have to email or call 10 people to remind them there is a meeting tomorrow.
Eli: Let's call everyone.
Paulo: I think emailing everyone is quicker.
Eli: Well, I think calling everyone is more efficient.
Paulo: Ok, let's call everyone.

Conversation 3
Katie and Juan are classmates. They have to either write a dialog or write a story for their class work.
Katie: Let's write a dialog.
Juan: I think writing a dialog is more difficult.
Katie: Well, I think writing a story is more boring.
Juan: Ok, let's write a dialog.

Conversation 4
Abdul and Sibani work together. They need to call or fax an order for more cleaning supplies to be delivered.
Abdul: Should we call or fax in the order?
Sibani: I think calling is more complicated.
Abdul: Really?
Sibani: Yes, faxing is better.
Abdul: Ok, let's fax in the order.

Find the pattern!
In each conversation...
1. Underline the 1st suggestion in each dialog.
2. Double underline the 2nd suggestion in each dialog.
3. What do the two people decide to do?
   Conversation 1: ________________________________
   Conversation 2: ________________________________
   Conversation 3: ________________________________
   Conversation 4: ________________________________
### Highlighting Grid

**Directions:**
- Now, use the sentences you underlined to fill in the grid.
  - Fill in the 1st suggestion and 2nd suggestion for each conversation.
- Then, answer the questions below.

#### Giving a Suggestion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTRODUCTION</th>
<th>SUBJECT (choice)</th>
<th>&quot;BE&quot;</th>
<th>COMPARATIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I think</td>
<td>writing a paper</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>harder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Yes,</td>
<td>making a poster</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Well, I think</td>
<td>emailing everyone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Questions:

1. Write the Comparative Forms in List A. Then, write the word you see inside the comparative in List B.

   **List A**
   - Comparatives
   - .......................................................... harder........................................
   - .......................................................... ...........................................
   - .......................................................... more efficient..................................
   - .......................................................... ...........................................
   - .......................................................... ...........................................
   - .......................................................... ...........................................
   - .......................................................... ...........................................
   - .......................................................... ...........................................

   **List B**
   - Word Inside
   - .......................................................... hard........................................
   - .......................................................... ...........................................
   - .......................................................... efficient..................................
   - .......................................................... ...........................................
   - .......................................................... ...........................................
   - .......................................................... ...........................................
   - .......................................................... ...........................................
   - .......................................................... ...........................................

2. What kinds of words are in List B?

3. There are two ways to form comparatives:
   - A) .......................................................... + er
   - B) more + .............................................
   - C) Which word in the list does not follow either of these rules?

4. How do you know whether to use Form A or Form B?

5. In the conversations, why did people use comparatives?

---

Katie Leite 7/5/2005 72
Controlled Exercises

Part I Directions:
- First, fill in the first two responses below to give suggestions.
- Use the faces to help you decide if the person @ likes or @ dislikes the idea.
- Then, fill in the last response with the agreed choice.

Conversation 1
Wonjung and Marco are coworkers. They have to submit a report to their boss. They are deciding whether to write it or type it.

Wonjung: Let's type it.
Marco: I think typing it is ....................... (easy, difficult)
Wonjung: Well, I think writing it is ....................... (messy, neat)
Marco: Ok, let's ........................................

Conversation 2
Neeraj and Freda are coworkers. They are taking lunch together and need to decide if they want McDonalds or a nice restaurant.

Neeraj: Let's go to a nice restaurant.
Freda: I think going to McDonalds is ....................... (slow, fast)
Neeraj: Well, I think going to a nice restaurant is ....................... (good, slow)
Freda: Ok, let's ........................................

Conversation 3
Miako and Deepak are partners. They need to read an article from a magazine. They found one short article and one long article.

Miako: Should we read the short article or the long article?
Deepak: I think reading the long article is ....................... (challenging, easy)
Miako: Yeah?
Deepak: Yes, reading the short article is ....................... (easy, difficult)
Miako: Ok, let's ........................................

Katie Leite © 2005
Great Job... now let's make it a little more difficult.

Part II: Directions:
- First, fill in the first two responses below to give suggestions.
- You must begin each conversation and decide if the 2nd person ☐ likes or ☐ dislikes the idea.
- Then, fill in the last response with the agreed choice.

Conversation 4
Mikko and Elsa are partners. They have to give a report on either Spain or Mexico for the class.

Mikko: Let's report on Spain.

Elsa: __________________ reporting on Spain is ___________________ (easy, hard) 😞

Mikko: Well, __________________ reporting on Mexico is ___________________ (interesting, boring)

Elsa: Ok, let's ________________________________

Conversation 5
Claudio and Masha are classmates. They have to meet for a project they are working on either this week or next week.

Claudio: Let's meet next week.

Masha: ________________ meeting this week is ___________________ (good, hard) 😊

Claudio: Well, ________________ meeting next week is ___________________ (easy, difficult)

Masha: Ok, let's ________________________________

Conversation 6
Kumi and Hironoshi are coworkers. They have to decide whether to finish their project late tonight or early tomorrow morning.

Kumi: Should we stay late or come early?

Hironoshi: ________________ coming early is ___________________ (good, hard) 😞

Kumi: Really?

Hironoshi: Yes, ________________ staying late is ___________________ (simple, difficult)

Kumi: Ok, let's ________________________________

Katie Leite © 2005
Semi-Controlled Exercises
Directions:
- Fill in the blanks below to give suggestions.
- Choose an appropriate adjective from the bank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective Bank:</th>
<th>To Express Like:</th>
<th>To Express Dislike:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>easy</td>
<td>tough</td>
<td>good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>simple</td>
<td>difficult</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>good</td>
<td>hard</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interesting</td>
<td>challenging</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clean</td>
<td>boring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>neat</td>
<td>messy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>quick</td>
<td>dirty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fast</td>
<td>slow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cheap</td>
<td>expensive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conversation 1
Eliene and Paul are coworkers. They have to decide whether to order Chinese or Pizza for lunch.
Eliene: Should we order Chinese or Pizza for lunch?
Paul: ...........................................................................................................................
Eliene: Yeah?
Paul: Yes, ..........................................................................................................................
Eliene: Ok.

Conversation 2
Gustavo and Cara are classmates. They have to decide whether to take the bus or the metro to class together.
Gustavo: Let's take the bus.
Cara: ..........................................................................................................................
Gustavo: Well, ....................................................................................................................
Cara: Ok.
Conversation 3
Marika and Cesar are coworkers. The steps to the building are broken. They have to either fix the broken steps or make new ones.
Marika: Let's fix the steps.
Cesar:
Marika: Well,
Cesar: Ok.

Conversation 4
Katie and Juan are classmates. They have to either write or type their assignment to give to the teacher.
Lucas: Should we write it or type it?
Raquel:
Lucas: Really?
Raquel: Yes,
Lucas: Ok.

Conversation 5
Jooyong and Marco are coworkers. They have to decide whether to drop the mail at the post office or call UPS to pick it up.
Jooyong: Let's call UPS to pick it up.
Marco:
Jooyong: Well,
Marco: Ok.

Conversation 6
Lea and Pepe are classmates. They have to choose to meet either after class or on the weekend to do a project together.
Lea: Should we meet after class or this weekend?
Pepe:
Lea: Yeah?
Pepe: Yes,
Lea: Ok.
Communicative Activity
Directions:
- Pick a partner.
- Read the situation in the big box.
- Write one possible choice you could do in each box.
- Then, write a few possible adjectives to describe why you would pick that choice.
- Last, have a conversation with your partner about each situation.
You should give your suggestion using comparatives.

Situation 1
You and your coworker are in charge of the holiday work party. You need to decide how to contact everyone about it.

Choice 1
Choice 2
Adjectives
Adjectives

Situation 2
You and your classmate are meeting at the library to study this weekend. You need to decide how to get there.

Choice 1
Choice 2
Adjectives
Adjectives

Situation 3
You and your classmate are working on a project together. You need to decide when to meet to work on the project.

Choice 1
Choice 2
Adjectives
Adjectives

Situation 4
You and a co-worker want to go have lunch together. You have to decide where to go eat.

Choice 1
Choice 2
Adjectives
Adjectives

Katie Leite © 2005
Homework

Directions:
- Pick two of the situations you discussed with your partner in class today.
- Write down the conversation (or a similar one) in the space below.
- You may have extra space.

Your Partner's Name: ____________________

Situation #1

situation content

situation content

situation content

situation content

Situation #2

situation content

situation content

situation content

situation content

Katie Leite © 2005

78
ANSWER KEY - Language Presentation

Directions:
• Listen to the conversations.
• Practice the conversations with a partner.

Conversation 1
Mark and Ana are partners in class. They have to decide whether to write a paper or make a poster for their project.
Mark: Should we write the paper or make a poster?
Ana: I think writing a paper is harder.
Mark: Really?
Ana: Yes, making a poster is easier.
Mark: Ok, let’s make a poster.

Conversation 2
Eli and Paulo work together. They have to email or call 10 people to remind them there is a meeting tomorrow.
Eli: Let’s call everyone.
Paulo: I think emailing everyone is quicker.
Eli: Well, I think calling everyone is more efficient.
Paulo: Ok, let’s call everyone.

Conversation 3
Katie and Juan are classmates. They have to either write a dialog or write a story for their class work.
Katie: Let’s write a dialog.
Juan: I think writing a dialog is more difficult.
Katie: Well, I think writing a story is more boring.
Juan: Ok, let’s write a dialog.

Conversation 4
Abdul and Sibani work together. They need to call or fax an order for more cleaning supplies to be delivered.
Abdul: Should we call or fax in the order?
Sibani: I think calling is more complicated.
Abdul: Really?
Sibani: Yes, faxing is better.
Abdul: Ok, let’s fax in the order.

Find the pattern!
In each conversation...
1. Underline the 1st suggestion in each dialog.
2. Double underline the 2nd suggestion in each dialog.
3. What do the two people decide to do?
   Conversation 1: **make a poster**
   Conversation 2: **call everyone**
   Conversation 3: **write a dialog**
   Conversation 4: **fax in the order**

Katie Leite © 2005
ANSWER KEY - Highlighting Grid

Directions:
- Now, use the sentences you underlined to fill in the grid.
  Fill in the 1st suggestion and 2nd suggestion for each conversation.
- Then, answer the questions below.

### Giving a Suggestion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTRODUCTION</th>
<th>SUBJECT (choice)</th>
<th>&quot;BE&quot;</th>
<th>COMPARATIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I think</td>
<td>writing a paper</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>harder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes,</td>
<td>making a poster</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>easier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. I think</td>
<td>emailing everyone</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>quicker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Well, I think</td>
<td>calling everyone</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>more efficient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. I think</td>
<td>writing a dialog</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>more difficult</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Well, I think</td>
<td>writing a story</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>more boring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. I think</td>
<td>calling</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>more complicated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes,</td>
<td>faxing</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>better</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Questions:
1. Write the Comparative Forms in List A.
   Then, write the word you see inside the comparative in List B.

   **List A**  | **List B**
   Comparatives | Word Inside
   ........................ harder ........................ | ........................ hard ........................
   ........................ easier ........................ | ........................ easy ........................
   ........................ quicker ........................ | ........................ quick ........................
   ........................ more efficient ........................ | ........................ efficient ........................
   ........................ more difficult ........................ | ........................ difficult ........................
   ........................ more boring ........................ | ........................ boring ........................
   ........................ more complicated ........................ | ........................ complicated ........................
   ........................ better ........................ | ........................ good ........................

2. What kinds of words are in List B? .......... Adjectives ..........

3. There are two ways to form comparatives:
   A) .......... Adjective .......... + er
   B) more + .......... Adjective .......... 
   C) Which word in the list does not follow either of these rules? comparative “better”, word inside “good”

4. How do you know whether to use Form A or Form B?
   Use Form A for shorter adjectives (1-2) and Form B for longer Adjectives (2+).

5. In the conversations why did people use comparatives? To suggest something and give their opinion.

Katie Leite © 2005
80
ANSWER KEY - Controlled Exercises

Part I Directions:
- First, fill in the first two responses below to give suggestions.
- Use the faces to help you decide if the person @ likes or @ dislikes the idea.
- Then, fill in the last response with the agreed choice.

Conversation 1
Wonjung and Marco are coworkers. They have to submit a report to their boss. They are deciding whether to write it or type it.

Wonjung: Let's type it.
Marco: I think typing it is .... more difficult .... (easy, difficult)
Wonjung: Well, I think writing it is .... messier .... (messy, neat)
Marco: Ok, let's .... type it ....

Conversation 2
Neeraj and Freda are coworkers. They are taking lunch together and need to decide if they want McDonalds or a nice restaurant.

Neeraj: Let's go to a nice restaurant.
Freda: I think going to McDonalds is .... faster .... (slow, fast)
Neeraj: Well, I think going to a nice restaurant is .... better .... (good, slow)
Freda: Ok, let's .... go to a nice restaurant ....

Conversation 3
Miako and Deepak are partners. They need to read an article from a magazine. They found one short article and one long article.

Miako: Should we read the short article or the long article?
Deepak: I think reading the long article is .... more challenging .... (challenging, easy)
Miako: Yeah?
Deepak: Yes, reading the short article is .... easier .... (easy, difficult)
Miako: Ok, let's .... read the short article ....
ANSWER KEY - Great Job... now let's make it a little more difficult.

Part II Directions:
- First, fill in the first two responses below to give suggestions.
- You must begin each conversation and decide if the 2rd person @ likes or @ dislikes the idea.
- Then, fill in the last response with the agreed choice.

Conversation 4
Mikko and Elsa are partners. They have to give a report on either Spain or Mexico for the class.

Mikko: Let's report on Spain.
Elsa: ..... I think ..... reporting on Spain is ..... harder ..... (easy, hard)
Mikko: Well, ..... I think ..... reporting on Spain is ..... more interesting ..... (interesting, boring)
Elsa: Ok, let's ..... report on Spain ..... 

Conversation 5
Claudio and Masha are classmates. They have to meet for a project they are working on either this week or next week.

Claudio: Let's meet next week.
Masha: ..... I think ..... meeting this week is ..... better ..... (good, hard)
Claudio: Well, ..... I think ..... meeting next week is ..... easier ..... (easy, difficult)
Masha: Ok, let's ..... meet next week ..... 

Conversation 6
Kumi and Hironoshi are coworkers. They have to decide whether to finish their project late tonight or early tomorrow morning.

Kumi: Should we stay late or come early?
Hironoshi: ..... I think ..... coming early is ..... harder ..... (good, hard)
Kumi: Really?
Hironoshi: Yes, ..... I think ..... staying late is ..... simpler ..... (simple, difficult)
Kumi: Ok, let's ..... stay late ..... 

Answers will vary for the Semi-controlled, Controlled, and Homework activities.

Katie Leite © 2005
82