

Comparatives and Superlatives

Comparing two things or actions

- Regular comparative adjectives / adverbs

hard < harder, big < bigger, easy < easier

modern < more modern, difficult < more difficult

carefully < more carefully

My sister is **taller than** me.

London is **more expensive than** Edinburgh.

The test is **less difficult than** the last one.

You drive **more slowly than** me.

- Irregular comparative adjectives / adverbs: *good/well < better, bad/badly < worse, far < further*

Olive oil is **better** for you **than** butter.

Liverpool played **worse than** last week.

Flying isn't **as comfortable as** going by train.

He doesn't smoke **as much as** she does.

Her new car looks **the same as** the old one.

➤ After as or than we can use an object pronoun *me, him, her, us, them,* etc. or a subject pronoun (*I, he, she*) + verb,

e.g. *She is taller than me* OR *She is taller than I am*
but NOT ~~*She is taller than I.*~~

Superlatives

- Form superlatives like comparatives but use *-est* instead of *-er* or and *most /least* instead of *more/ less*.
- You normally use *the* before superlatives, but you can also use possessive adjectives, e.g. *my best friend, their most famous song*.

He is **the tallest** player in the team.

Oslo is **the most expensive** city in Europe.

This book is **the least difficult** to understand.

She is **the best** student in the class.

Who drives **the most carefully** in your family?

That is **the worst** they have ever played.

Complete with the comparative or superlative of the bold words.

- 1- The traffic is than it used to be. (**bad**)
- 2- He is person in the office. (**lazy**)
- 3- The journey looked than we expected. (**long**)
- 4- My father speaks than I do. (**quick**)
- 5- You walk than I do. (**Slow**)
- 6- time to travel is on holiday weekends. (**bad**)
- 7- He is person I've ever met. (**selfish**)
- 8- It was film I've seen this year. (**bad**)
- 9- She is than her brother. (**intelligent**)
- 10- I sat next to person at the party. (**boring**)

11- Jane is of all my sisters. (**competitive**)

12- Mexican food is American food. (spicy)

13- it is than it was this time last year. (hot)

14- Could we meet a bit tomorrow? (early)

15- Sue is member of my family. (ambitious)

Complete with one word

1- Your watch is the same mine.

2- He is not as clever he thinks he is.

3- It isbest book I have ever read for a long time.

4- Is Texas the biggest citythe USA?

5- My father speaksquickly than I do.

6- We don't go swimmingoften as we did before.

7- Her brother is about 10 and she is a year younger then

8- I think it was the saddest film I'veseen.

Read the article and tick (✓) A, B, or C.

The transatlantic question

Charles Lindbergh's 33-hour flight from New York to Paris in 1927 made aviation history. Less known is the return flight to New York by two Frenchmen three years later. Taking just over three hours longer, Costes and Bellonte made an equally exciting journey from Paris to New York in their plane, the *Question Mark*. The first question they faced, Captain Costes remembered in an article at the time, was "Would the plane lift off the ground?" 'That was our greatest concern. We had 5,200 litres of gasoline on board.'

This fear passed quickly but was followed by other hazards. They ran into three storms. The third, and worst of all, was over Nova Scotia, in Canada. 'In order to avoid it we had to fly 100 miles out of our way. Time was passing and every minute meant the loss of more of our precious fuel.'

They had another problem: 'The sky was overcast, it was raining and we had to fly below those rain clouds. Sometimes they were extremely low which meant they had to fly as close to the water as ten metres.'

‘There were many exciting moments during our trip, but I think the greatest thrill came when we first saw the coast of North America,’ said Costes. He decided that three was their lucky number. They had survived three storms – and at 3 a.m. French time, they saw land. But their adventures weren’t over.

Suddenly, a mountain appeared out of the mist. ‘We were between the steep banks of a river. It was a tight place. Bellonte was at the controls at that time and he had to think fast. Fortunately, having flown thousands of miles, the plane was light.’ Bellonte managed to turn the plane just in time. But Costes said, ‘It is not pleasant to think how close we came to those cruel, jagged rocks.’

Fortunately, they succeeded where many others before them had failed, and the graceful landing at the airport in New York was greeted by 10,000 cheering people. Among them was Colonel Charles Lindbergh who said ‘I congratulate you!’ as he shook the hands of the two heroes.

1- Costes and Bellonte flew from Paris to New York in _____.

A 1927 B 1930 C 1933

2- They were most worried that the plane was _____ to fly.

A too light B too small C too heavy

3- The storm in Canada was _____.

A quite small B very serious C not worrying

4. They were worried that the plane _____.

A was losing fuel B was flying too high C was getting wet

5. When it rained, they sometimes had to fly _____.
A above the clouds B close to the sea C around the clouds
- 6- The most exciting part of the journey was when _____.
A they flew close to the sea B they saw the American coast
C they saw the third storm
- 7- They saw the American coast when it was _____ in France.
A early morning B mid-afternoon C midnight
- 8- Costes thought they were going to _____.
A fly into the river B fly into a storm C crash into a mountain
- 9- They _____ the airport in New York.
A landed at B passed over C missed
- 10- Colonel Lindbergh congratulated them _____.
A on the phone B in a letter C at the airport

Match five of the underlined words and phrases with the definitions.

- 1 worry _____
- 2 not on our planned route _____
- 3 covered in cloud _____
- 4 excitement _____
- 5 light and controlled _____