30 Comparative adjectives (2)

Janie loves shopping. But she doesn't go to shops, she uses the Internet.
She thinks the service is **better** and the prices are **cheaper**.

1 Comparatives without *than*

We can use comparative adjectives without *than* when it is clear what or who we are talking about:

The first exam was easy but the second was ***more difficult.*** (more difficult than the first exam)
She thinks the service is ***better*** *and the prices are* ***cheaper.*** (better and cheaper than shops)
Don't take the car. It's ***quicker*** *to go by train.*
I'm tall but my brother's ***taller.***

2 Irregular adjectives

Some comparative adjectives are irregular:

adjective	*bad*	*good*	*far*	*well* (= healthy)
comparative adjective	*worse*	*better*	*further/farther*	*better*

My exam results are ***worse*** *than yours.*
The Chinese restaurant is nice, but I think the food is ***better*** *in the Italian one.*
The flight to Seattle is longer because it's ***further.***
Jenny is ***better*** *than she was before the operation.* (healthier)

3 *more* and *less*

The opposite of *more* is *less*. We can use *less* with adjectives with two or more syllables:
Gold is ***more expensive*** *than silver.* (= *Silver is* ***less expensive*** *than gold.*)
Books are ***less exciting*** *than films.*

⚠ We don't use *less* with adjectives with only one syllable (e.g. *old, tall, nice, young*):
✗ ~~*My mother is less old than my father.*~~
✓ *My mother is* ***younger*** *than my father.*

We can also use *not as* + adjective + *as* (e.g. *not as old as*) (➤ Unit 32.1).

⚠ We don't use *more* or *less* with an adjective that is already a comparative adjective:
✗ ~~*People in Argentina are more friendlier than people here.*~~
✓ *People in Argentina are* ***friendlier*** *than people here.*

⚠ We don't use *more* with irregular adjectives:
✗ ~~*I think television is more good than radio.*~~
✓ *I think television is* ***better*** *than radio.*