



PUC SPEL Online is a web-based English language tutoring system developed by PUC to help you improve your English vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. You can access the online courses from your own computer with an internet connection and at any time you are available. The course provides convenience and flexibility for you to practice your English independently outside of your classrooms with the support of online tutors.

<https://pucspel.online>  
✉ [spelonline@puc.edu.kh](mailto:spelonline@puc.edu.kh)  
📍 PUC South Campus

## Grammar Reference

### > Regular comparatives

**Comparative superiority** is expressed in two ways.

- **Adjective** + **'-er than'** is used with **short** adjectives (i.e., those containing one or — when they end with **'-er,' '-ow,' '-le'** and **'-y'** — two syllables). In such cases **'-y'** becomes **'-i.'**

Example: John's **taller than** Peter.  
Is it **easier than** downhill skiing?

#### Note.

- **'-r'** is added to adjectives ending in **'-e.'**

Example: He's **nicer than** you.  
New York is **larger than** life!

- Final consonants of adjectives that end in **one vowel + one consonant** are **doubled** in the comparative.

Example: Their house is **bigger than** ours.

- **'Than'** + noun or noun phrase (or clause) is at times omitted.

Example: When will it get **warmer**?

- **'More'** + **adjective** (+ **'than'**) is used with **long** adjectives.

Example: My sister is **more intelligent than** my brother.  
You know it is **more beneficial** on a long-term basis.

**Comparative inferiority** is expressed by **'less' + adjective** (+ **'than'**).

Example: This model is **less expensive than** the later one.

Note.

- **Comparative adverbs** are formed like **comparative** adjectives. All adverbs ending in '-y' are preceded by 'more.'

Example: She runs **faster** than you.  
He drives **more slowly** nowadays.

- '**More**' and '**less**' can precede **nouns and noun phrases**.

Example: I would like **more details**.  
A bank guarantee affords **less protection**.

To make a statement more specific, **quantifiers** or **numbers** sometimes come before the **more/less + noun** form.

Example: We need at least **two more hours** to finish the job.

We hope to have **many more success stories** in the future.

They've had **much less financial difficulty** this year.

**5,000 less jobs** were created this quarter than they were last quarter.

Note. In a sentence referring back to a **noun** that appeared previously, the **noun** may be dropped.

Example: We don't have enough skilled employees.  
We need **four more** (skilled employees).

> Adjectives ending in -ing

**Gerunds** ('-ing' verb forms) may be used as **adjectives**. They generally have active meanings in this case.

Example: This view is really **exhilarating**.  
That was a **disappointing** day.  
These **self-sticking** stamps don't stick!

> 'Too' - 'Too much'

- **'Too'** precedes **adjectives** and **adverbs**.

*Example:* My tea's **too** strong.

He runs **too** fast.

- **'Too much'** precedes **uncountable** (singular) **nouns**; **'too many'** precedes **plural** countable **nouns**.

*Example:* **Too much** sun is bad for you.

She has **too many** friends.

Note. When **'too much'** modifies a **verb**, it follows the **verb**.

*Example:* He drank **too much**.

> Placement of 'enough'

The adverb **'enough'** is placed:

- **after** adjectives and adverbs;

*Example:* I'm not tall **enough**.

You drive fast **enough**.

- **before** nouns and noun phrases;

*Example:* But there aren't **enough** pillows!

- **after** verbs, including past participles.

*Example:* One pound is **enough**.

I've eaten **enough**.