City living

Comparative and superlative adjectives
City and small town • Directions

STARTER

1 Think of a town or city in your country. Say where it is.
   It’s in the north/south/east/west … near the mountains/ocean … on a river …

2 Listen to the descriptions of two cities. Which cities are they?

NEW YORK AND PARIS
Comparative adjectives

1 Read and listen to the conversation.

A Which do you prefer, New York or Paris?
B Well, I’m from Paris, so of course I love Paris.
A New York’s a lot bigger than Paris.
B That’s true. Paris is much smaller, but it’s more romantic!
A Yes, that’s what people say.
B And the food is better.
A Well, I’m not so sure about that …


GRAMMAR SPOT

1 Regular comparative adjectives add -er or more. Write the comparative forms.
   big bigger romantic _____ small _____
   What are the rules? When do we add -er? When do we use more?
2 Some adjectives are irregular.  good better bad _____

   Grammar Reference 9.1  p. 136

2 What is the comparative form of the adjectives in the box?
tall – taller  expensive – more expensive

tall  expensive  hot  cheap  nice  rainy  warm  cold  polite  beautiful  bad  good

Work with a partner. Test each other on the comparative forms. Check the spelling.

- the Empire State Building/the Eiffel Tower
  I think the Empire State Building is taller than the Eiffel Tower.
- the Métro/the New York City Subway – €€€? $$$?
  I think the Métro is …
- the weather – warm? rainy?
  I think Paris has …
- the buildings
  I think the buildings …
- the parks
  I think the parks …

4 CD3 Listen to Rob, a New Yorker who lives and works in Paris. Complete his sentences.

1 The New York City Subway is cheaper than the Métro.
2 New York has _____ winters than Paris.
3 Paris is _____ than New York, but New York has _____ storms.
4 The architecture in Paris is _____ _____, but the buildings in New York are _____ _____.
5 Life is _____ in New York.
6 People in New York work _____ and they make _____ money.
7 In Paris, having a good time is _____ _____ than making a lot of money.

5 Work with a partner. Close your books. Try to remember what Rob said.

PRACTICE

Comparing cities

1 Complete the conversations using the comparative form of the adjectives.

1 A Dubai is older than Rio de Janeiro. (old)
   B No, it isn’t! Dubai is much more modern! (modern)
2 A Tokyo is _____ _____ Bangkok. (cheap)
   B No, it isn’t! Tokyo’s much _____! (expensive)
3 A Seoul is _____ _____ Beijing. (big)
   B No, it isn’t! Seoul is much _____! (small)
4 A Miami is _____ _____ Los Angeles. (safe)
   B No, it isn’t! It’s much _____! (dangerous)
5 A Taxi drivers in New York are _____ _____ taxi drivers in London. (good)
   B No, they aren’t! They’re much _____! (bad)

CD3 6 Listen and check.

2 Work with a partner. Practice the conversations in exercise 1. Be careful with stress and intonation.

Dubai is much more modern!

3 Work in small groups. Compare two cities you know.

… is bigger than … … is nearer the … …, but … is safer …
Superlative adjectives

1 Look at the introduction to the text about Chelsea Market. Complete the chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjectives</th>
<th>Superlatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 good</td>
<td>best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 big</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 popular</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 busy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 Read the rest of the text. Complete it with the adjective in the superlative.

3 What's special about …?
   • Chelsea  It's the best place in the city to have lunch.
   • Chelsea Market  • the food  • Iron Chef
   • weekends  • the High Line

CD3 Listen and check.

GRAMMAR SPOT

1 Look at the superlatives in exercise 1. What are the rules?
2 What are the comparative and superlative forms of these adjectives?

small  expensive  hot
easy  beautiful

Grammar Reference 9.1 p. 136

NEW YORK’S BEST FOOD MARKET

Chelsea Market

The neighborhood of Chelsea is the best place in New York City to have lunch. And Chelsea Market is New York's biggest and most popular indoor food market. It has more than 35 food shops and restaurants. It also has a bookstore, a clothing store, and a gift shop. There are usually a lot of people at the market, but it's busiest at lunchtime and on weekends.

Chelsea is one of New York's 1 (old) neighborhoods. Five to six million people a year visit Chelsea Market to shop, eat, and meet friends. The food is amazing, but it isn't the 2 (cheap) in the city. There's candy, ice cream, soup, fresh seafood, New York's 3 (delicious) brownies, and more!

People often buy food at the market and bring it to the High Line to eat. The High Line is a mile-long elevated park near Chelsea Market. It is New York's 4 (new) and 5 (unique) park. The High Line and Chelsea Market are very popular with both tourists and locals.

Chelsea Market even has a TV network. The Food Network films some of its TV cooking shows at Chelsea Market. Try to get tickets to watch Iron Chef, one of TV’s 6 (good) cooking shows!
PRACTICE

It's the biggest!

1. Complete these sentences with a superlative adjective.
   1. The _______ building in New York is One World Trade Center. It's 1,776 feet (541 meters).
   2. The _______ hotel is the The St. Regis. It costs more than $800 a night!
   3. The _______ park in New York is Central Park. It's 843 acres (341 hectares).
   4. The _______ tourist attraction is Times Square. It has 39,000,000 visitors a year.
   5. The _______ building is the Empire State Building. Everyone knows it.
   6. The _______ restaurant for spotting celebrities is Nobu. They all go there.

Making comparisons

2. Complete the sentences with an opposite comparative adjective.
   1. The music here is too loud. Can we go somewhere _______?
   2. The 10:00 train is too slow. Is the 11:30 train a _______ one?
   3. You're _______. Why weren't you here _______?
   4. This apartment is too far from the center of town. I need somewhere _______.
   5. Five minutes is too short for a break. We need a _______ one.
   6. This exercise is too easy. Can I do something _______?

Check it

3. Choose the correct sentence.
   1. [ ] Yesterday was more hot than today.
      [ ] Yesterday was hotter than today.
   2. [ ] She's taller than her brother.
      [ ] She's taller that her brother.
   3. [ ] I am the most young in the class.
      [ ] I am the youngest in the class.
   4. [ ] This exercise is most difficult in the book.
      [ ] This exercise is the most difficult in the book.
   5. [ ] This is the coldest day of the winter.
      [ ] This is the most coldest day of the winter.
   6. [ ] What is the more beautiful park in the city?
      [ ] What is the most beautiful park in the city?
   7. [ ] That's the most expensive restaurant in town.
      [ ] That's the expensivest restaurant in town.

Hi! I’m Chantal!

Q Where do you live in New York?
C Well, we’re renting an apartment in Chelsea. It’s probably the _______ apartment in the city!

Q What does your husband do?
C He has a cheese shop in Chelsea Market… he sells French cheese. I think it’s the _______ food at the market!

Q Do you have a car?
C No, I don’t. The subway is the _______ way to get around New York.
READING AND LISTENING

Megacities

1. Look at the list of megacities. Put them in order of size of population: 1 = the biggest.
   - Mumbai
   - Shanghai
   - Tokyo
   - New York
   - Mexico City
   - Delhi

   CD 10 Listen. Were you right? What is a megacity? What happened in 2008?

2. Look at the photos. What can you see?
   Look at the title of each article. Which city …?
   • is very fast
   • has a mix of cultures
   • has a lot of poverty

3. Work in three groups.
   Group A Read about Tokyo.
   Group B Read about Mumbai.
   Group C Read about Mexico City.

   Make notes about your city under these headings:
   - The city and its people
   - Money and business
   - Buildings and history
   - Climate
   - Transportation

4. Work with students from the other two groups.
   Exchange and compare information about the cities.

Listening

5. CD 11 Listen to these people from the three megacities. What do they like about their capital city? What do they say about …?
   • the people
   • the climate
   • transportation
   • things to do

Project

Research another megacity. Make some notes. Present your findings to the rest of the class.

HIGH-SPEED

TOKYO

Tokyo has a population of more than 35 million people. It is the largest city in the world. It is also one of the most exciting. Everything moves fast here. It has one of the biggest and busiest railroad systems in the world. Every day, 40 million commuters use it to get to and from work. People make the highest salaries, and they spend the most money. They wear the latest fashions and have the most up-to-date phones. It is one of the most expensive cities in the world.

Old and new

Tokyo was originally a small fishing village called Edo. The name changed in 1868 when the Emperor moved there. The architecture is very modern. There are not many old buildings because of the 1923 earthquake and the Second World War. But traditional Japan is always nearby, with many Shinto shrines and public baths around the city.

Visiting Tokyo

Tokyo is on the east coast of Japan. The summers are hot and humid. The most beautiful time of year is spring, when the famous cherry blossoms are on the trees. The city is huge, but it is one of the safest cities in the world.
Mumbai is one of India’s largest cities, with a population of 19.7 million. It is also India’s most important commercial center. Mumbai was part of the British Empire until independence in 1947. It was called Bombay until 1995, when it was renamed Mumbai.

Mexico City has a population of 20.5 million. It is the largest city in both North and South America. The Aztecs called it Tenochtitlán, and it was already an important city when the Spanish invaded in 1521. The country became independent in 1821.

Rich and poor
Mumbai is both old and modern, rich and poor. The streets are full of people doing business, selling snacks and clothes, or just living there. Money is everywhere in modern Mumbai. India’s most important businesses and banks have their headquarters there. The Bollywood film industry produces more films than Hollywood in Los Angeles. Modern skyscrapers and new shopping malls are right next to slums. About sixty percent of the population live with no running water, no electricity, and no sanitation.

Visiting Mumbai
Mumbai is on the west coast. The wet season is from June to September. Between November and February it is a little cooler and dryer. The city is best at sunrise and sunset, when the color of the stone buildings changes from gold to orange and pink. The cheapest and easiest transportation is by bus. Trains can be crowded and dangerous. Because of its poverty, Mumbai can be a difficult place to live, but the experience is unique.

Indigenous and European
Mexico City offers a variety of experiences. In the Zócalo, the main square, you can see the National Palace and other historic buildings, and a modern skyscraper. The city has a lot of museums and theaters. European squares and colonial houses sit next to busy markets selling Mexican food and indigenous handicrafts. It is the richest city in Latin America. There are elegant shops selling high-end goods, expensive restaurants, and really cool cafés. There is also a lot of poverty.

Visiting Mexico City
Mexico City is in a valley in the south central area of the country. It is surrounded by mountains. The rainy season is from June to October. The warmest months are April and May. It has the largest and cheapest subway system in Latin America. Traffic moves so slowly that it is often faster to walk. The air quality is not good, and visitors need to be careful, but the city offers a rich cultural mix.
VOCABULARY AND SPEAKING

City and small town

1 Look at the pictures. Which one is the city? Which one is the small town?

2 Find the words in the box in the pictures.

3 Complete the sentences with city and town words.
   1 A mall is bigger than a farmer’s market.
   2 A mountain is higher than a ______.
   3 A ______ is smaller than a house.
   4 A city is bigger than a ______.
   5 In my city there's a ______ of George Washington sitting on his horse. It's in the main ______.
   6 The mayor has an office in ______.
   7 Cars drive on the ______. Pedestrians walk on the ______.

4 What can you do …?
   • at a gas station You can buy gas.
   • in a library at a farmer’s market on a farm
   • in a mall in a parking lot

Your town

5 Where do you go in your town …?
   • to meet friends for culture (art, music, history, …)
   • to see tourist sights when it is a nice day

WRITING Describing a place p. 110
EVERYDAY ENGLISH

Directions

1. Look at the map of Fairview. Find these things.

- traffic circle
- traffic lights
- crosswalk
- traffic sign

2. Listen. Complete the directions from YOU ARE HERE to Route 312 to Westfield. Use the prepositions.

- over
- along
- past
- around
- up
- down
- through
- under

Go along Spring Street, _____ the Fairview Hotel on your left, and _____ the bridge. At the traffic circle, turn left and go _____ Park Avenue. Go _____ the corner, _____ the woods, and _____ the hill. Then go _____ the railroad bridge and you are on Route 312 to Westfield.

3. Start from YOU ARE HERE. Listen to the directions. Where do you finish?

1. _________  2. _________  3. _________

4. Work in pairs. Ask for and give directions to …

- the train station
- Route 4 to Appleton
- a supermarket
- the Town Hall

5. Give directions to places in your town from your school.

Go out of the school. Turn right and …