COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES

CEFR Level B2 — Upper-Intermediate

English Language Worksheets | 4 Worksheets + Answer Key

Worksheet 1: Complex Comparative Structures

At B2 level you need to use a wider range of comparative structures with accuracy and flexibility.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

Key structures at B2

Structure	Function	Example
as … as / not as … as	Equality / inferiority	The results were not as clear as expected.
far / much / considerably + comparative	Intensifying comparisons	The new model is considerably more efficient.
the … the … (double comparative)	Proportional change	The more you read, the better your vocabulary becomes.
comparative + and + comparative	Progressive change	The situation is becoming more and more complex.
no + comparative + than	Surprising equivalence	She is no wiser than before.
twice / three times + as … as	Proportional quantity	This room is twice as large as the other.
tend to be + comparative	Generalisation	Urban areas tend to be more expensive.

PART A — **Choose and complete**

Fill in each gap using the most appropriate structure from the table above. More than one answer may be possible.

1 The ___ you practise, the ___ your pronunciation will become.

2 City centre rents are ___ higher ___ those in the suburbs.

3 The pollution levels are becoming ___ and ___ alarming.

4 He proved ___ capable ___ we had initially thought.

5 Online courses ___ be more flexible ___ traditional classes.

6 The new policy is ___ more restrictive ___ its predecessor.

7 She is ___ experienced ___ her colleague — they joined the same year.

PART B — Error analysis

Each sentence contains one structural or lexical error. Identify and correct it. Write a note explaining the rule.

1 *"The more I studied, the most confused I became."*

Correction: _____

Rule: _____

2 *"This proposal is considerably more better than the previous one."*

Correction: _____

Rule: _____

3 *"She is no more wiser than she was ten years ago."*

Correction: _____

Rule: _____

4 *"The city is twice more expensive as the town."*

Correction: _____

Rule: _____

5 *"Urban areas tend to have more higher crime rates."*

Correction: _____

Rule: _____

Score: _____ / 22

Worksheet 2: Register, Hedging & Connotation

Advanced writers choose adjectives based on register, connotation, and degree of certainty.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

Hedged comparisons in formal writing

In academic and professional writing, we often soften comparisons using: *tends to be, is generally considered, may be, appears to be, is arguably, is somewhat*.

PART A — **Rewrite with appropriate hedging**

Rewrite each sentence to make it less direct and more appropriate for formal writing. Use the word(s) in brackets.

1. City A is more productive than city B. *(tends to be)*

_____

_____

2. Remote work is better for work-life balance. *(is generally considered)*

_____

_____

3. Higher taxes reduce inequality more effectively. *(may be / more effective at)*

_____

_____

4. Urban schools are worse than rural schools for wellbeing. *(somewhat / appear to be)*

_____

_____

PART B — **Connotation & register**

Each pair of sentences uses a different adjective. Decide which is more appropriate for the context given. Justify your answer.

1. Context: Academic report on housing

A) The property market is more volatile than last year. / B) The property market is more mental than last year.

More appropriate: ___ / Justification: _____

2. Context: Personal blog post

A) My new flat is considerably more spacious than my previous accommodation. / B) My new flat is way bigger than my old one.

More appropriate: ___ / Justification: _____

3. Context: Medical journal

A) Patients in the treatment group showed more pronounced improvement. / B) Treatment group patients got better more quickly.

More appropriate: ___ / Justification: _____

Score: _____ / 18

Worksheet 3: Data Interpretation

Use complex comparative structures to describe and analyse data.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A — City data

Study the data and write the sentences below using the structure indicated in brackets.

City	GDP/capita (USD)	Cost of Living	Air Quality (0–100)	Commute (min)	Life Sat. (1–10)
Vienna	$58,000	72	88	27	8.1
Singapore	$65,000	85	74	31	7.3
Copenhagen	$62,000	89	91	22	8.4
São Paulo	$14,000	41	53	61	6.2
Toronto	$52,000	76	82	44	7.8

1. Compare São Paulo and Vienna's GDP per capita. *[considerably / substantially]*

_____

_____

2. Describe Copenhagen's air quality relative to Singapore. *[nothing like as … as]*

_____

_____

3. Link commute time and life satisfaction as a general trend. *[the … the … double comparative]*

_____

_____

4. Rank Toronto's cost of living among the five cities. *[second / third + superlative]*

_____

_____

5. Acknowledge a limitation of using GDP as the only measure. *[while … more … than … / however]*

_____

_____

PART B — Discursive paragraph

Write a paragraph of 120–150 words arguing that one city in the table is the best overall destination for a highly-skilled professional. Use at least FOUR different comparative or superlative structures and maintain a formal register throughout.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Word count: _____

Score: _____ / 25

Worksheet 4: Reading & Extended Writing

Analyse a complex text and produce extended formal writing.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

PART A — Critical reading

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

The relationship between economic growth and environmental sustainability has grown increasingly complex. Wealthier nations tend to emit considerably more carbon per capita than developing economies, yet they are also considerably better placed to invest in clean technology. Renewable energy is becoming far more cost-effective than fossil fuels in many markets, though the pace of transition is no faster in high-income countries than in rapidly industrialising ones. Critics argue that GDP growth is no more reliable an indicator of wellbeing than measures such as life expectancy or educational attainment — and in some cases, it may be a far less accurate reflection of social progress than either of these alternatives.

1. Identify all comparative structures in the passage. Label each as C (comparative) or S (superlative).

_____

_____

_____

2. What does 'no faster … than' imply? Rewrite this idea using a different structure.

_____

_____

_____

3. The writer uses hedged language. Identify TWO examples and explain the effect of the hedging.

_____

_____

_____

4. What is the writer's main argument about GDP? Summarise in one sentence using a comparative structure.

_____

_____

_____

PART B — Essay introduction

Write an essay introduction (150–180 words) on the topic: 'Developed nations bear a considerably greater responsibility for addressing climate change than developing ones.' Use at least FIVE distinct comparative or superlative structures. Underline them.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Word count: _____ Structures underlined: _____ / 5

Score: _____ / 35

Answer Key — B2 Level

For teacher use only

Answer Key

WS1 Part A: 1)the more / the better 2)considerably / far higher / than 3)more and more 4)no more capable than 5)tend to be / more flexible than 6)far/considerably more restrictive than 7)no more experienced than

WS1 Part B: 1)'the most' → 'the more' 2)remove 'more' (considerably better) 3)remove 'more' (no wiser) 4)'more' → 'as' (twice as expensive as) 5)remove 'more' (higher)

WS2 Part A: accept any grammatically correct hedged version WS2 Part B: 1)A (academic) 2)B (blog) 3)A (journal)

WS3 Part A: accept any accurate sentences using the indicated structure WS4 Part A: accept any analytically precise answers identifying: considerably more, considerably better, far more, no faster, no more reliable, far less accurate