

old/older expensive / more expensive

A



Older / heavier / more expensive are *comparative forms*.
The comparative is **-er** (older) or **more** ... (more expensive).

B

older / heavier, etc.

Short words (1 syllable) → **-er**:

old → older	slow → slower	cheap → cheaper
nice → nicer	late → later	big → bigger

For spelling, see Appendix 5: big → bigger hot → hotter thin → thinner

Words ending in **-y** → **-ier**:

easy → easier	heavy → heavier	early → earlier
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- Rome is **old**, but Athens is **older**. (not more old)
- Is it **cheaper** to go by car or by train? (not more cheap)
- Helen wants a **bigger** car.
- This coat is OK, but I think the other one is **nicer**.
- Don't take the bus. It's **easier** to take a taxi. (not more easy)

far → farther:

- A: How far is it to the station? A mile?
- B: No, it's **farther**. About two miles.

C

more ...

Long words (2/3/4 syllables) → **more** ...:

careful → more careful	polite → more polite
expensive → more expensive	interesting → more interesting

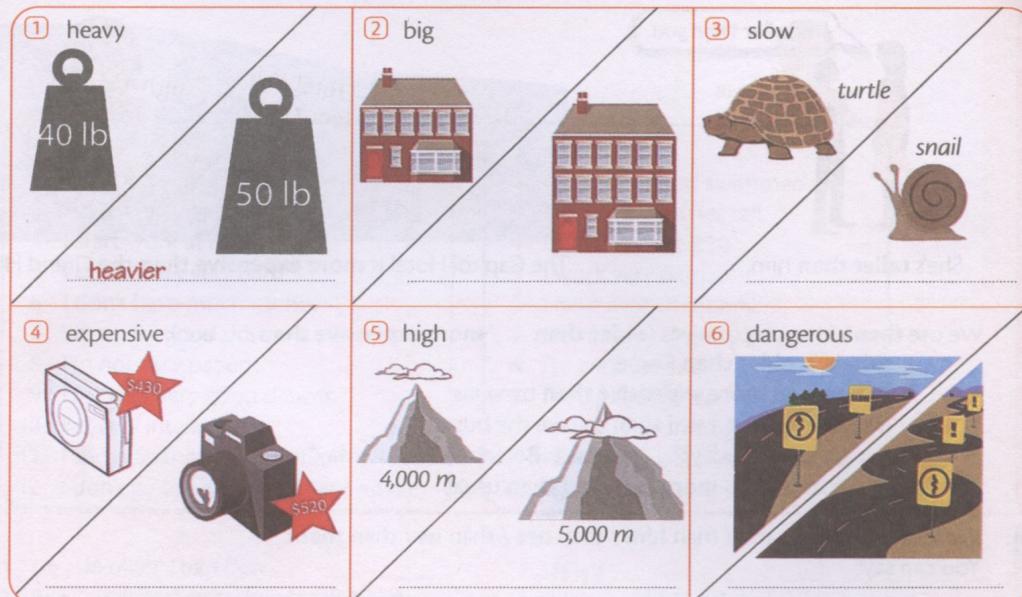
- You should be **more careful**.
- I don't like my job. I want to do something **more interesting**.
- Is it **more expensive** to go by car or by train?

D

good / well → better bad → worse

- The weather wasn't very **good** yesterday, but it's **better** today.
- "Do you feel **better** today?" "No, I feel **worse**."
- Which is **worse** – a headache or a toothache?

85.1 Look at the pictures and write the comparative (**older** / **more interesting**, etc.).



85.2 Write the comparative.

1 old	older	6 good	.....
2 strong	.....	7 large	.....
3 happy	.....	8 serious	.....
4 modern	.....	9 pretty	.....
5 important	.....	10 crowded	.....

85.3 Write the opposite.

1 younger	older	4 better	.....
2 colder	.....	5 nearer	.....
3 cheaper	.....	6 easier	.....

85.4 Complete the sentences. Use a comparative.

- Allison's car isn't very big. She wants a **bigger** one.
- My job isn't very interesting. I want to do something **more interesting**.
- You're not very tall. Your brother is
- David doesn't work very hard. I work
- My chair isn't very comfortable. Yours is
- Your idea isn't very good. My idea is
- These flowers aren't very nice. The blue ones are
- My suitcase isn't very heavy. Your suitcase is
- I'm not very interested in art. I'm in history.
- It isn't very warm today. It was yesterday.
- These tomatoes don't taste very good. The other ones tasted
- Peru isn't very big. Brazil is
- Los Angeles isn't very beautiful. San Francisco is
- This knife isn't very sharp. Do you have a one?
- People today aren't very polite. In the past they were
- The weather isn't too bad today. Often it is much