

# 15 Two comparatives together

You can use two comparatives in a sentence to show the effect of an action. You can also use them to show that something is changing.

 **New language** Two comparatives together

 **Aa Vocabulary** Age and population

 **New skill** Expressing cause, effect, and change

## 15.1 KEY LANGUAGE TWO COMPARATIVES TOGETHER

You can make comparisons that show cause and effect by using two comparatives in one sentence.



**The harder** I train, the **stronger** I get.

Implies that training causes you to get stronger.



## 15.2 FURTHER EXAMPLES TWO COMPARATIVES TOGETHER



**The worse** the children behave, the **angrier** the teacher gets.



**The louder** the cat meows, the **louder** the dog barks.



## 15.3 HOW TO FORM TWO COMPARATIVES TOGETHER





## 15.4 REWRITE THE SENTENCES, PUTTING THE WORDS IN THE CORRECT ORDER

The    terrified    he    more    drives,    become.    faster    the    I

The faster he drives, the more terrified I become.

1 longer    went    the    more    The    the    film    on,    bored    I    became.

2 quicker    it    more    the    rained,    The    the    vegetables    grew.

3 me    more    not    The    she    the    to    laugh,    told    more    I    laughed.

4 a    it    dessert    The    contains,    is    for    sugar    more    the    worse    you.



## 15.5 REWRITE THE SENTENCES, CORRECTING THE ERRORS

I've noticed that the less I sleep, grumpier I am.



I've noticed that the less I sleep, the grumpier I am.

1 The louder my music is, the more angrier my mother gets.



2 The young the skier is, the less frightened they are of falling.



3 The annoyed my teacher gets, more I giggle nervously.



4 Faster the car went, louder the passengers screamed.



## 15.6 ANOTHER WAY TO USE TWO COMPARATIVES TOGETHER

Double comparatives that end with "the better" can be made shorter by losing the subjects and the verbs.

How do you like your tea?



The **stronger** the **better**.

Can I bring my brother along?



Sure! The **more** the **merrier**.

This expression means people are welcome.



## 15.8 KEY LANGUAGE TWO COMPARATIVES TOGETHER

A comparative can be repeated to show that something is changing.

**The weather is getting colder and colder.**



The repetition emphasizes that the change is ongoing.



## 15.9 READ THE ARTICLE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

People are living longer than they used to.

True  False  Not given

1 There are fewer babies being born these days.

True  False  Not given

2 Pensions and social care will cost nations more.

True  False  Not given

3 A younger workforce is more experienced.

True  False  Not given

4 Retired people have more time to do charity work.

True  False  Not given

## 15.7 MATCH THE QUESTIONS TO THE CORRECT ANSWERS

When do you want your appointment?

The bigger the better.

1 How many guests should we invite?

The sooner the better.

2 What size engine do you want?

The stronger the better.

3 What type of coffee do you like?

The more the merrier.



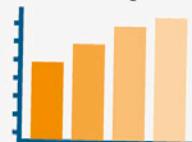
### YOUR HEALTH

## We're all living longer and longer

Life expectancy has risen around the world and older people make up a larger and larger proportion of the population in many countries.

An aging population can cause challenges such as increasing pension and social care costs.

However, there are also potential benefits. The older a workforce is, the more skills and experience it has. Also, as people live longer after retirement, they can offer more time to good causes such as volunteering for charity.





## 15.10 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND WRITE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS IN FULL SENTENCES



A radio station is reporting on aging populations.

What two reasons are mentioned for people living longer?

The news report mentions improved healthcare and improved standards of living.

1 What economic issue do aging populations lead to?

2 In the first suggested solution, who is responsible for people's care in old age?

3 In the second suggested solution, who is responsible for people's care in old age?

4 What is the third suggested solution?

### 15 ✓ CHECKLIST

Two comparatives together

Age and population

Expressing cause, effect, and change

### REVIEW THE ENGLISH YOU HAVE LEARNED IN UNITS 12–15

| NEW LANGUAGE                       | SAMPLE SENTENCE   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | UNIT             |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| INFORMAL LINKING DISCOURSE MARKERS | I like listening to music, <b>but</b> my mother hates it.   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 12.1             |
| FORMAL LINKING DISCOURSE MARKERS   | The castle is ancient, <b>whereas</b> the town is modern.   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 12.4             |
| "USED TO" AND "WOULD"              | We <b>used to live</b> in London before we moved to Sydney. Whenever my uncle visited, he <b>would bring</b> us presents. | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 13.1, 13.3       |
| "AS... AS" COMPARISONS             | Lisa is <b>as tall as</b> Marc.   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 14.1             |
| TWO COMPARATIVES TOGETHER          | The <b>harder</b> I train, the <b>better</b> I get.<br>The weather is getting <b>colder</b> and <b>colder</b> .           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 15.1, 15.6, 15.8 |