

- English Grammar in Use (Grammar Addition to the Textbook English for Pharmacy and Medical Bioanalytics)
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- Comparison Clauses

## Comparison Clauses

### The more..., the more...

Express that two things vary together.

We use a reduced clause in each part of a *The more..., the ...* expression.

The correlative comparative is a paired construction. Each part is syntactically alike. A comma separates the two clauses.

**The more** the building shook, **the more** we held on.

**The louder** it became, **the more** we saw things falling down.

**The more** we saw, **the less** we could believe.

The meaning varies from cause-effect actions to simply same-time occurrences.

Not every *As more, then* sentence can be restated as a *The more..., the ...* expression.

As/Because the shaking of the building grew stronger, we held on more.

As/Because it became louder, we saw things falling down.

As we saw more (destruction), it was harder to believe (what we saw).

In some expressions, the second variation is an expected, unexpected or contrary outcome.

Note that the word, verb, phrase and clause forms are parallel in each part of the expression. *Be* is omitted in the reduced construction.

#### THE + NOUN

**The larger** the paycheck, **the greater** the purchase.

**The lower** the rates, **the more** the borrowers.



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**THE + ADJECTIVE****The stronger, the better.** (coffee, nations, will)**The bigger, the better.** (toys, cars)**The older** I get, **the younger** I feel**THE + CLAUSE****The higher** they rise, **the more** they earn.**The older** I get, **the more** I understand.**The more** you give, **the more** you receive. (love, wealth)**The better** your education is, **the greater** your opportunities will be.**The more** you plan, **The better** your experiences.**The more** input we have, **The better** our conversations.**The better** you sleep, **The more** rested your mind.

## Expressions for Similarity and Differences

**Use the expressions below to show similarity: *as...as, the same...as, like, etc.***This apple is **as** red **as** that apple (is). (adv - adv)This apple has **the same** flavor **as** that apple (has). (noun – adv)This apple and the other apples are **the same**.This apple **looks like** that apple. (verb phrase)This apple is **similar to** that apple. (adj – prep)This apple is **like** that apple. (prep)This apple is **just the same as** that apple. (adv - pronoun - adv)**Both** this apple **and** that one are sweet. (focusing adverb - conjunction)**Neither** this apple **nor** that one is sweet. (focusing adverb - conjunction)**Use the expressions below to show dissimilarity: *not as...as, different...from, unlike, etc.***The apple is **different from/ than** the orange. (adj - conj)This apple is **not as** sweet **as** this orange. (adv - adv)The apple is **more** beautiful **than** the orange. (adv - conj)EVROPSKÁ UNIE  
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The apple is **much more** beautiful **than** the orange. (adv -adv – conj)

The apple grows on a tree **unlike** the tomato. (prep)

The apple is **more like** a pear **than** the orange. (prep - adv)

The skin of the apple **contrasts to** the skin of the orange. (verb - prep)

The orange **in contrast to** the lemon is sweet. (prep - prep)

The orange is sweet **in contrast to** the lemon **which** is bitter.

## Comparison / Contrast

### Connective Adverbs "Transition Words"

#### Connective adverbs for similarity and difference

A transition word ( a connective adverb) transitions the reader from the thought in one sentence to a **similar thought** in the next. The adverbial is an adverb (-ly, -wise) or a prepositional phrase.

This apple is tart. **Similarly**, this one is sour. (Adv)

This apple is tart. **In the same way**, this one is sour. (prep phrase)

That orange is delicious. **Likewise**, this apple is very flavorful. (Adv)

That orange is delicious. **Equally**, this apple is very flavorful. (Adv)

This orange is flavorful. **In a similar manner**, this apple is very tasty. (prep phrase)

These **transition words**, called **connective adverbials**, are used to relate the information in two clauses. The adverb relates to the entire clause rather than the verb within the clause.

The apple is red. **In contrast**, the orange is orange. (prep phrase)

Some people think the apple is orange. **On the contrary**, the apple is red. on the contrary = not true! (prep phrase)

**While / Whereas** the orange is high in fiber, the apple is not. (prep phrase)

The orange is high in fiber. **However**, the apple is not. (connective adverb)



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**On the one hand** the lemon is high in fiber, **on the other hand** it is too bitter to eat. "*both sides of the coin*"

## Much -ER / Much More + Adjective

Use the suffix **-er** with one syllable words to make a comparative word form with **than**.

This apple is **better than** that one (is). (good – better)

This apple is **redder than the other one** (is). (red)

This apple is **a bit heavier than** that one. (*heavy*)

This apple is **far uglier than** that one. (*ugly*)

Use **much (adv.)** to emphasize a comparative adjective, more. (also: far, rather, a little, a bit, a lot)

This apple is **much more beautiful than** that one.

This apple is **far more flavorful than** the other one.

This apple is **a bit more exceptional than** that one.

This apple is **a lot more desirable than** that one.

## Much / Far / A Bit / Rather / Way — Too

Use **too** to modify an adjective creating the meaning of an unacceptable, excessive degree. (also: far, rather, a little, a bit)

Heff is **too old** for her.

She is **too young** for him.

Elena is **too tall**.

You are **too kind** (a compliment with emphasis)

Hugh is **too confident**. (He'll be disappointed.)



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It is **too soon** to know if the marriage will last.

I have to work late **too often**.

He's **too smart** to allow another player to score a goal.

Heff is **much too old** for her.

She is **far too young** for him. (also: a bit too young)

Elena is **much too tall**. (also: a bit too tall)

You are **much too kind** to me. (also: far too kind)

Hugh is **a little too confident** that he'll win. (also: a bit too confident)

It is **a bit too soon** to know if the marriage will last. (also: far too soon)

I have to work late **rather too often** (also: far too often)

He's **way too smart** to give that point away. (way – informal speech)

