

COMPARISONS

I. DOUBLE COMPARATIVE (expressing increase or decrease → a continuous change)

→ **cada vez mais** / **cada vez menos**

- Your work is getting **better** *and* **better** (cada vez melhor)
- This book is getting **more** *and* **more** interesting (cada vez mais interessante)
- This book is getting **less** *and* **less** interesting (cada vez menos interessante)

II. **the** + **more/-er ; less** **the** + **more/-er ; less** (cause / effect ; interdependence)

→ **quanto mais** **mais** ... ; **quanto menos** **menos** ...

- **the more** I study, **the more** I learn. (quanto mais estudo, mais aprendo)
- **the less** you study, **the worse** marks you get. (quanto menos estudares, piores notas tens)
- **the more** I know him, **the less** / **the more** interesting I find him. (quanto mais o conheço, menos / mais interessante o acho)
- **the less** you eat, **the thinner** you get. (quanto menos comeres, mais magro ficas)
- **the more** sweets you eat, **the fatter** you get. (quanto mais doces comeres, mais gordo ficas)
- **the sooner, the better.** [quanto mais cedo (brevemente) , melhor]

III. **intensifying** the degree of comparison

- It's **much colder** today / ... **a lot colder** / **far colder** (... **muito mais** frio)
- This shirt is **much more expensive** (muito mais cara) // **much cheaper** (muito mais barata)
- This shirt is **far less** nice (... de longe / muito menos bonita)
- He's got **many more books** than I have. → **many** more + **countable nouns**
- He's got **much more money** than I have. → **much** more + **uncountable nouns**

Exercises – complete the sentences with the appropriate comparisons :

I. Express increase / decrease:

- a) It's becoming _____ (hard) to find a job these days.
- b) Today, _____ people are learning English.
- c) You are not taking this subject seriously. Your marks are getting _____ (bad)
- d) As I was waiting for the verdict, I became _____ . (nervous)

II. Establish a cause/ effect relationship

- a) _____ (warm) the weather, _____ (good) I feel.
- b) _____ (close) to the sea, _____ (expensive) the hotel is.
- c) _____ (early) we leave, _____ (soon) we' ll arrive.

III. Intensify the comparison. Use different intensifiers.

- a) I found the museum _____ interesting than I had expected.
- b) This flat is too small for me. I need a _____ (big) one.
- c) She looks _____ (happy) now than she did yesterday.
- d) Ann works _____ (hard) than most of her classmates.

CORRECTION:

I. Express increase / decrease:

- a) It's becoming harder and harder to find a job these days.
- b) Today, more and more people are learning English.
- c) You are not taking this subject seriously. Your marks are getting worse and worse
- d) As I was waiting for the verdict, I became more and more nervous .

II. Establish a cause/ effect relationship (relação de causa-efeito)

- a) The warmer the weather, the better I feel.
- b) The closer to the sea, the more expensive the hotel is.
- c) The earlier we leave, the sooner we'll arrive.

III. Intensify the comparison. Use different intensifiers.

- a) I found the museum much (a lot) more interesting than I had expected.
- b) This flat is too small for me. I need a much bigger one.
- c) She looks much happier now than she did yesterday.
- d) Ann works much harder than most of her classmates.

← <http://dlestrangeiras.no.sapo.pt>

← <http://dlestrangeiras.no.sapo.pt/english%20page/e-learning%20english.htm>