

Skyrocket Your Grammar 4

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Adjectives and adverbs

Adjectives describe nouns (people, places, things or ideas). We place adjectives after the noun and a form of *be*. For other verbs, we place adjectives before the noun.

The gymnast was **short**. She wore a **new blue** leotard.

Adverbs describe verbs. They often answer the question *How?* Short adverbs usually follow the verb or verb phrase they describe.

The boy ran **fast** and jumped **high** over the bar.

1 Look and write *Adj* (adjective) or *Adv* (adverb).



1. Table tennis has a short net. _____
2. A table tennis ball is very small. _____
3. Players usually hit the ball very hard. _____
4. They use a small round paddle. _____
5. The ball flies high above the table. _____
6. It travels fast across the net. _____
7. A slow player can lose the game! _____

2 Complete the sentences.

far hard high low

1. Football goalkeepers work _____ to stop goals.
2. They jump down _____, close to the grass.
3. They jump up _____ to catch the ball.
4. Then they throw the ball _____, to the other end of the field.



Comparative adverbs

To compare two events, we use a comparative adverb + *than*. For most one-syllable adverbs, we form the comparative by adding *-er*.

Tony swam **faster than** one swimmer in the race, so he won first place. (fast)

Some one-syllable adverbs have irregular comparative forms.

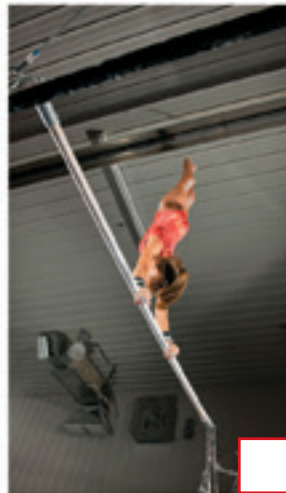
Amanda jumped **farther than** David in the long jump event. (far)

- 1 Unscramble and write the comparative adverbs.

School sports competitions

For the first time, our school won the annual sports competition against our rival school in the next town!

- The volleyball player from our school jumped _____ (*igrehh*) than the player from their school, so she hit the ball over the net first.
- Our runner ran _____ (*trefas*) than their runner, so he won first place in the race.
- The gymnast from our school stayed on the bar _____ (*nolegr*) than the gymnast from their school, so she scored more points.
- Our synchronised swimming team practised _____ (*drarhe*) than their team, so they won by making perfect shapes in the water.



◆ Read, look and number the pictures.

Comparative adjectives

To compare two nouns, we use a comparative adjective + *than*.
For most one-syllable adjectives, we form the comparative by adding *-er*.

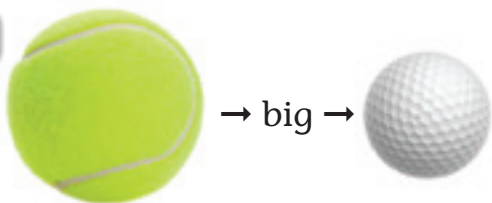
A tennis racket is **larger than** a table tennis paddle. (*large*)

Some one-syllable adjectives have irregular comparative forms.

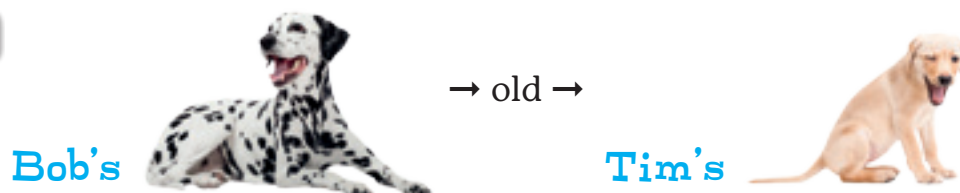
A large paddle is **better than** a small one. (*good*)

1 Look and write sentences with comparative adjectives.

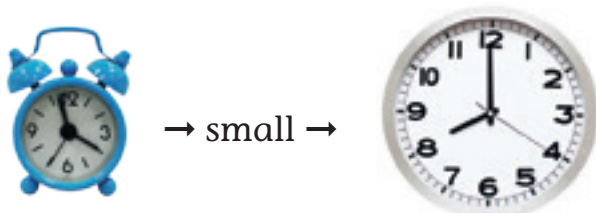
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2



3



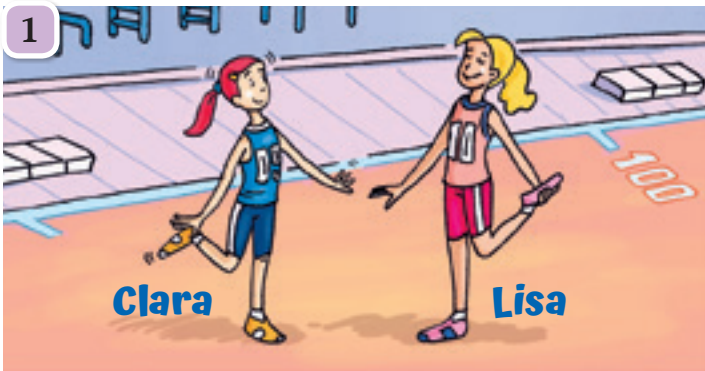
2 Listen and match the comparative adjectives. 6



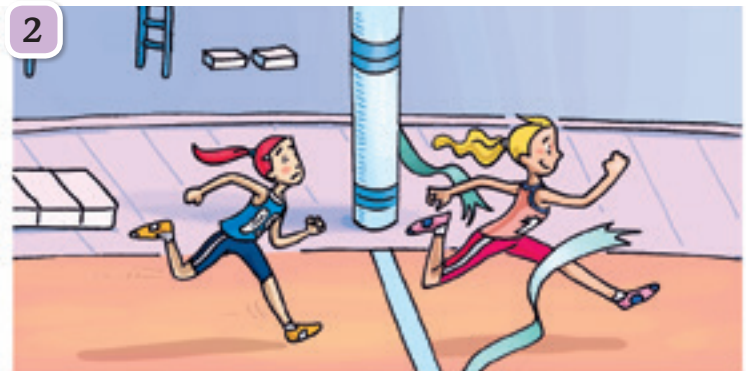
bigger
lighter
harder
thicker
longer
cheaper



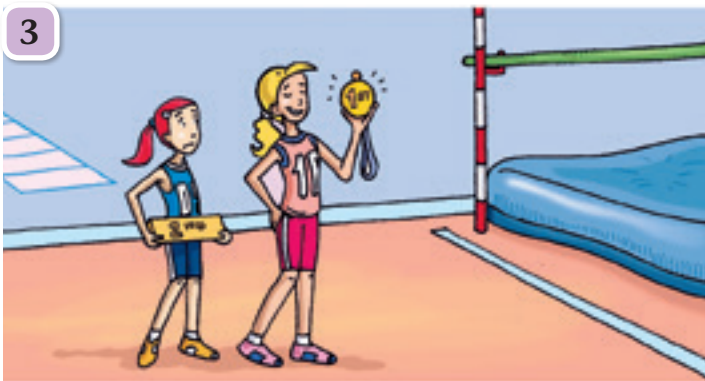
3 Read and write the comparative forms.



Clara is nine years old. Her sister Lisa is one year _____ than she is. Clara is good at sports, but Lisa is _____ than Clara at almost everything.



Last week, they went to a competition. First, they ran in a race. Clara ran fast, but Lisa ran _____, so she won first place.



Next, they competed in the high jump. Clara is tall, so she jumped high over the bar. But Lisa is _____, so she jumped _____, and she won again.



In the long jump, Clara jumped a long way. She was very happy about her jump! But Lisa's jump was _____. She was _____ than Clara.



In the last event, they threw a discus. Lisa is strong, and her throw was long. But Clara is _____ than Lisa. Her throw was _____!



Finally, Clara won first place! She was very proud of herself. But her sister Lisa was even _____.

1 Read and use the code to underline the comparatives.

 = comparative adjective

 = comparative adverb



Youth Sports Weekly

International Swimming and Diving Competition

The second annual International Swimming and Diving Competition took place in Acapulco, Mexico. This event was a **greater** success than last year's!

The swimmers from Australia swam **faster** than the swimmers from France, so they won most of the short races. But the swimmers from France won the **longer** races.

The divers from China won several of the indoor diving events. They dived **faster** from the high diving boards than the other divers did. They also did **harder** dives with twists and turns in the air!

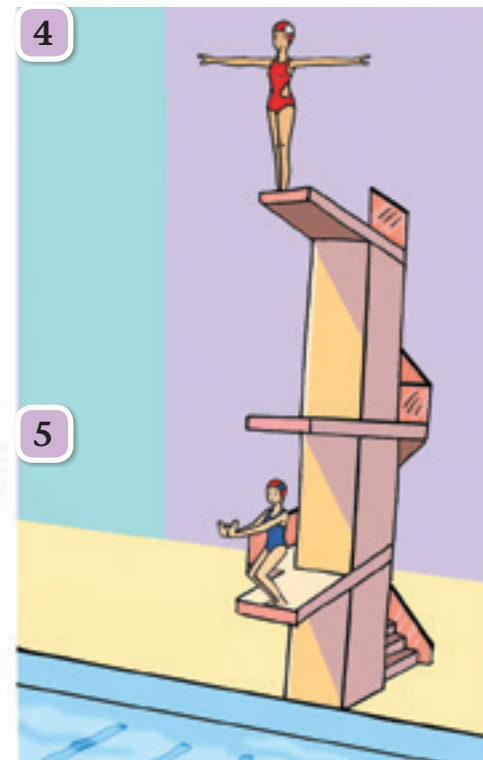
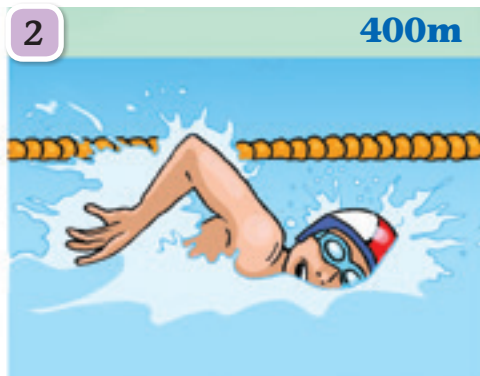
On the low diving board, one diver from China went too fast. She made a big splash in the water, and she scored **lower** than the other divers. A diver from Italy scored **higher** and won that event.

The athletes also took part in a cliff diving competition! The cliffs were **higher** than the diving boards. The dives were **bigger**, too. The divers from Mexico won all the cliff diving events.

Congratulations to all the athletes in the competition!



2 Read the article again, look and write the winning country.



1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____

3 Read and write the comparatives.



One cliff diver from Mexico, Marco Gutiérrez, took the Best Diver prize. Mexico's Sports minister gave him his award. Marco's smile was wide, but the minister's smile was _____! Marco was happy with himself, but his parents were _____!

4 Complete with comparatives.

SWIMMER: I didn't swim faster because my goggles were _____ usual. (*tight*)

DIVER: The cliff in Mexico is _____ the cliff at home. (*high*)

SWIMMER: I know I can do _____ I did today. (*good*)





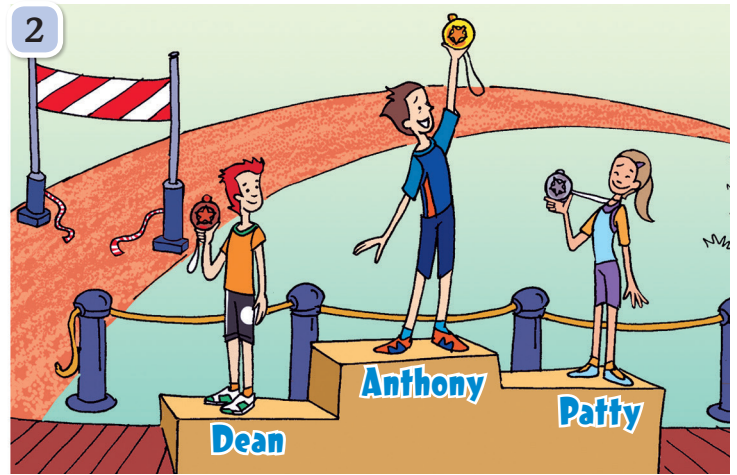
Review

4

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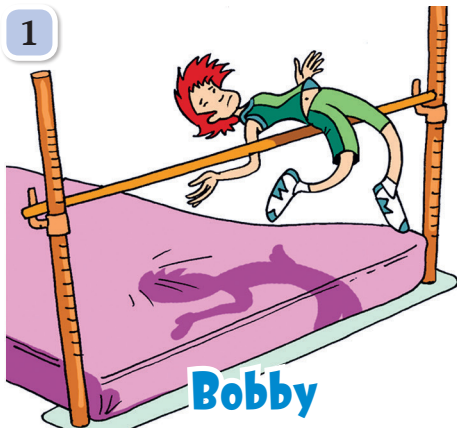
1 Look and write a sentence about each person.



1. Dean ran fast. Patty _____
_____.
2. Dean was happy. Patty _____
_____.

2 Read and complete.

can (x3)	can't	could	couldn't
----------	-------	-------	----------



1. This year, Bobby _____ jump higher than he _____ jump last year. Yesterday, he won first place in the high jump event at his school.
2. Alexis _____ play the piano when she was six. Then she took piano lessons for a year. Now Alexis is seven, and she _____ play the piano very well.
3. Sam is only four years old, and he _____ already tie his shoes! Susan is the same age as Sam, but she _____ tie her shoes. She needs someone to help her.

3 Listen and complete.  

Without Trying Very Hard

Paul and George and John were brothers,
But they didn't look the same,
And they each had different talents
Without trying very hard.

John was _____, and George was _____.

Paul was _____ one of all.

He could reach up to the basket
Without trying very hard.

George was strong and Paul was stronger.

John was the strongest one of all.

He could lift _____ weight

Without trying very hard.

Paul ran _____, but John ran _____.

George ran _____ of them all.

He could win the longest races
Without trying very hard.

But the brothers had a sister,
And their sister's name was Jane.

She could beat all of her brothers
Without trying very hard.

Paul and George and John were _____.

Jane was _____ of them all.

She liked being _____ at everything

Without trying very hard.

