WHICH HOLIDAY SOUNDS BETTER?

B1 lesson plan

1. Work in pairs or small groups and name 2 pros and 2 cons of the options below.

- ... staying in the most expensive hotel in the city
- ... choosing the cheapest flight you can find
- ... travelling with someone who is less organised than you
- ... planning a holiday that is more adventurous than relaxing
- ... taking the longest train journey instead of a short flight
- ... going on a trip that is more expensive than you expected
- ... going to a beach that is farther away but less touristy
- ... visiting a place that is hotter than expected but more exciting
- ... taking a holiday that is shorter but much more luxurious
- ... buying a suitcase that is bigger than you need



2. Read the text and complete the task with the correct comparative or superlative phrases.

Lena and Tom want to go on holiday together, but they have very different ideas.

Lena loves relaxing holidays. She thinks small seaside towns are **more charming than** big cities, and she says travelling by train is much **more comfortable than** flying. She also believes you can relax **more easily** on a train than on a plane. In her opinion, **the best holiday** is one that is quiet, slow, and not too expensive. For her, a small seaside town is **the least stressful** place for a holiday. She wants to stay in a guesthouse near the beach because it is **cheaper than** a hotel and **friendlier than** a big resort.

Tom disagrees. He prefers busy places with lots of things to do. He says city breaks are **more exciting than** beach holidays because there are more museums, shops, and restaurants. He also likes flying because it takes **less time than** travelling by train. He wants to visit Barcelona because he thinks it is one of **the most interesting** cities in Europe. In fact, it looked like **the liveliest** place on the coast. Lena, however, prefers **quieter** places because they usually have **fewer tourists**, **less traffic**, and **less noise**.

At first, they cannot decide. Lena thinks Barcelona will be too crowded and **more stressful than** a small town. Tom thinks the seaside trip will be **worse than** a city break because there will be less to do. Actually, he is worried it might be **the worst** holiday he has ever had.

In the end, they have chosen a coastal city. It has beaches, but it also has a lively town centre. It turns out to be a great choice. The town is **less noisy than** Barcelona, but **more lively than** the small villages Lena first wanted. Their apartment is not **as luxurious as** a hotel, but it is **bigger** and **better** for their budget. After the trip, Tom says it has been one of **the best** holidays he has ever had, and Lena admits it was **more interesting than** she expected.

1. Lena thinks small seaside towns are _____ .
2. Lena says travelling by train is much _____ .
3. Lena believes you can relax _____ .
4. For Lena, a small seaside town is _____ place for a holiday.
5. Lena says a guesthouse is _____ a hotel.
6. Lena says a guesthouse is _____ a big resort.
7. Tom says city breaks have _____ .
8. Tom says flying takes _____ .
9. Tom believes Barcelona is one of _____ in Europe.
10. For Tom, Barcelona looks like _____ on the coast.
11. Lena says quieter places usually have _____ .
12. Tom thinks the seaside trip will be _____ .
13. Tom worries it might be _____ .

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14. The text says the coastal city is _____ Barcelona.
15. The text says their apartment is not _____ a hotel.
16. The text says their apartment is bigger and _____ for their budget.
17. Tom says it has been one of _____ .

3. Read the rules and choose the correct options from the alternatives in bold.

Comparatives

Form the comparative of most short adjectives and adverbs like *fast/tall/long* by adding **-er/-ier**.

- She wants to stay in a guesthouse near the beach because it is cheaper than a hotel.
- I've known about it longer than you have.

When an adjective ends in -y, change -y to **-ier/-iest**.

- It is easier to relax on a quiet beach than in a busy city.

Form the comparative of adverbs ending in -ly and longer adjectives by adding **more/much** or *less*. Use *than* to make a comparison with something else.

- Small seaside towns are more charming than big cities.
- The town is less noisy than Barcelona.
- She also believes you can relax more easily on a train than on a plane.
- They moved around the city less comfortably than they expected.



Some adjectives and adverbs are irregular:

good/well → better

bad/badly → **badder/worse**

far → *farther/further

- Their apartment is bigger and better for their budget.
- Tom thinks the seaside trip will go worse than a city break.
- The hotel is farther from the beach than we expected.
- We need to discuss the plan further before booking the tickets.

Use *(not) as + adjective/adverb* + **than/as** to make comparisons.

- Their apartment is not as luxurious as a hotel.
- He drove as carefully as usual.

We can also compare nouns.

- There are more museums, shops, and restaurants.
- Flying takes less time than travelling by train.
- Quieter places usually have fewer tourists, less traffic, and less noise.

Note:

We use **less** with uncountable nouns: less time, less traffic, less noise.

We use **fewer** with plural countable nouns: fewer tourists, fewer rooms, fewer people.

*__farther__ - used for physical distance

__further__ - used for figurative distance or degree

Superlatives

Use *the + adjective* + **-er or -ier/-est or -iest** to form the superlative of most short adjectives and adverbs.

- The smallest hotel room we stayed in was surprisingly cosy.
- In fact, it looked like the prettiest place on the coast.
- Among all the travellers, she packed the fastest.

Use *the + most + adjective* to form the superlative of longer adjectives and adverbs.

- Barcelona is one of the most interesting cities in Europe.

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- Out of all the options, the taxi got us there the most quickly.

Use *the least* to form the superlative of adjectives and adverbs. It is the opposite of *the most*.

- For Lena, a small seaside town is the least stressful place for a holiday.
- The night train ran the least smoothly of all the transport options.

Some adjectives and adverbs have irregular superlatives:

good/well → **the goodest/the best**

bad/badly → the worst

far → *the farthest/furthest

- Actually, he is worried it might be the worst holiday he has ever had.
- Spring is the best time to visit this place.
- The mountain village was the farthest place from the airport.
- This travel guide gave the furthest explanation of local traditions.

Use a superlative adjective with the *present perfect* to talk about life experience.

- Tom says it has been one of the best holidays he has ever had.

Note:

*__**farthest**__ - used for physical distance

__**furthest**__ - used for figurative distance or degree

4. Study the rules for comparatives and superlatives. Work in pairs or small groups. Give 1–2 of your own examples for each rule.

Rules:	most short adjectives and some adverbs	adjectives ending in -y	longer adjectives and adverbs	irregular forms	(not) as + adjective/adverb + as	comparing nouns	present perfect with superlatives
Comparatives:	add -er: cheap**er**, fast**er**, long**er**	change -y to -ier: eas**ier**, nois**ier**	use more/less + adjective/adverb: **more** charming, **less** interesting, **more** easily	good/well → **better**; bad/badly → **worse**; far → **farther/further**	**not as** luxurious **as**, **as** carefully **as**	more/less + uncountable noun: **less** time, **more** traffic; more + plural noun: **more** shops; fewer + plural countable noun: **fewer** tourists	—
Superlatives:	add -est: cheap**est**, fast**est**, long**est**	change -y to -iest: eas**iest**, nois**iest**	use the most/the least + adjective/adverb: **the most** interesting, **the least** comfortably	good/well → **the best**; bad/badly → **the worst**; far → **the farthest/furthest**	—	—	**the worst** holiday he **has ever had**; one of **the best** holidays he **has ever had**

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5. Complete the sentences with the correct comparative form of the words in brackets.

1. A package holiday can be _____ than planning everything yourself. (easy)
2. Hidden places usually have _____ visitors than famous tourist attractions. (few)
3. A delayed flight can make the whole journey _____ than expected. (bad)
4. Travelling by coach is usually _____ than travelling by train. (slow)
5. Many travellers sleep _____ in a private room than in a hostel dorm. (well)
6. A mountain village may be _____ than a busy seaside resort. (quiet)
7. A campsite is sometimes _____ a hotel, but some people still prefer it. (not as/convenient/as)
8. Travelling in a small group is sometimes _____ than travelling alone. (good)
9. On overnight journeys, some people rest _____ on a train than on a plane. (comfortably)
10. Travelling out of season can mean _____ traffic and _____ stress. (little/little)
11. Big capitals usually have _____ galleries, markets, and attractions than small towns. (many)
12. A walking tour can be _____ a bus tour. (as/enjoyable/as)



6. Rewrite the sentences using the words in brackets so they mean the same.

1. Missing a flight is worse than getting lost in a new city. (not as)

_____

2. A hostel dorm is less private than a single room. (more)

_____

3. Some tourists explore a city more easily with a guide than on their own. (not as)

_____

4. Popular beaches have more cafés than quiet villages. (fewer)

_____

5. A taxi is more convenient than a crowded airport shuttle. (not as)

_____

6. A travel card is cheaper than buying separate tickets. (not as)

_____

7. Famous resorts usually have more traffic than small islands. (less)

_____

8. Travelling in first class is more comfortable than travelling in economy. (not as)

_____

7. Discuss the questions in pairs or small groups.

- Would you rather visit a place that is more popular or more peaceful? Why?
- Would you rather stay somewhere less comfortable but more authentic? Why?
- Would you rather stay in a place with better views but worse reviews or a place with better reviews but no view? Why?
- Would you rather travel with a person who is more confident with maps or someone who is better at speaking foreign languages? Why?
- Would you rather visit a country where the food is more unusual or a country where the culture is more familiar? Why?
- Would you rather have a trip with fewer plans but more surprises or more plans but fewer problems? Why?
- Would you rather travel with people who are better at saving money or people who are more fun to be with? Why?
- Would you rather have a holiday that is slower and calmer or faster and busier? Why?
- Would you rather visit one city more deeply or visit three cities more quickly? Why?
- Would you rather have a holiday with better food but worse transport or better transport but worse food? Why?

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8. Put a tick ✓ if the sentence is correct.

A.

1. It was the cheapest hotel we could find near the airport. _____
2. This is the more cheap hotel in the area. _____
3. That was the livelyest street in the city at night. _____

B.

1. This is the comfortablest train I've ever taken. _____
2. Business class is one of the most comfortable options for long flights. _____
3. That was one of the excitingest trips of my life. _____



C.

1. This is the less interesting place in the city. _____
2. It was the leastest crowded beach we visited. _____
3. For me, that was the least stressful part of the journey. _____

D.

1. It was the most bad experience of the trip. _____
2. This is the worst airport I've ever been to. _____
3. That was the goodest meal I had on holiday. _____

E.

1. That is the most beautiful place I ever visit. _____
2. This is the best hotel I have ever stayed in. _____
3. It has been the worse journey I have ever had. _____

F.

1. This is one of the more popular beaches in the country. _____
2. Iceland is one of the most unique travel destinations in the world. _____
3. It is one of the interestingest places to visit. _____

G.

1. She travelled the more comfortably of all. _____
2. He arrived the most late of everyone. _____
3. Of all the options, she travelled the most comfortably by train. _____

H.

1. That was the busiest time of the year. _____
2. It was the most easiest way to get to the hotel. _____
3. This is the most cheapest ticket available. _____

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9. Make questions using the prompts. Use the superlative. Work in pairs or small groups and discuss the questions.

Example:

What/beautiful/place/you/ever/visit?

→ What's the most beautiful place you've ever visited?

1. What/surprising/moment/you/ever/have/while travelling?

2. What/difficult/situation/you/ever/face/on a trip?

3. Which/impressive/building/you/ever/see?

4. What/unusual/place/you/ever/stay in?

5. Which/noisy/place/you/ever/sleep in?

6. What/long/journey/you/ever/take?

7. What/expensive/mistake/you/ever/make/while travelling?

8. Which/quiet/place/you/ever/discover?

10. Optional activity. The goal of the game is to connect four of your squares in a line. All directions (vertical, horizontal, diagonal) are allowed. Play in teams or individually (with up to 2 people).

Work in pairs or small groups. The goal of the game is to connect four squares in a row (horizontal, vertical, or diagonal).

Take turns choosing a square. When you choose a square, you must:

1. Make a sentence using the prompt in the square.

2. Use either a comparative OR a superlative.

3. If your sentence is correct, you win the square. If not, you lose your turn.

4. The first player/team to connect four squares in a row wins.

Find the activity on the last page.



11. Read the text and choose the correct options.

Last summer, I planned a quiet weekend in a small town, but it became one of **1)more surprising/the most surprising** trips I've ever had. The town was **2)smaller/the smallest** than I expected, but it was **3)more interesting/the most interesting** than it looked online.

At first, our hotel seemed **4)worse/the worst** than the photos. The room was **5)darker/the darkest** than we wanted, and the street outside was **6)noisier/the noisiest** than we expected. However, the owner was one of **7)friendlier/the friendliest** we have ever met on a trip.

The next day, we found a hidden beach. It was **8)less crowded/the least crowded** than the main beach, and there were **9)less/fewer** tourists. There was also **10)less/fewer** noise, so we could relax **11)more easily/the most easily** than on the busy beach. For me, it was **12)less stressful/the least stressful** place in the town.

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In the evening, we missed the last bus, so we walked back. It took **13)more/the most** time than we expected, but it became **14)better/the best** part of the trip. We walked through quiet streets, saw the sunset, and took some of **15)better/the best** photos we've ever taken.
In the end, the trip was not **16)as relaxing as/more relaxing as** I had planned, but it was definitely **17)better/the best** weekend I've had this year.

12. Look at the two pairs of photos. Work in pairs or small groups and choose one pair to compare. Use comparatives and superlatives to describe the places. Then decide which place you would rather visit for your next holiday and explain why.

1.





2.





Useful prompts

- Photo 1 looks more/less ... than Photo 2.
- Photo 2 has fewer/less ... than Photo 1.
- Photo ___ is the most/the least ... place.
- Photo ___ is not as ... as Photo ___.
- I would choose Photo ___ because it looks ... .

13. Work in pairs or small groups. Each student shares an example from their own life based on one category (e.g. "the least stressful holiday I've ever had").

Step 1: Compare

After sharing, compare your experiences using comparatives.

- My trip was quieter than yours.
- Your holiday was more expensive than mine.
- Mine was less stressful because there were fewer people.

Step 2: Decide

As a group, decide:

- who had the most/least/best experience in that category

Step 3: Present

Present your decision to the class. You must use:

- at least 1 comparative and 1 superlative

Categories:

- the most unforgettable destination
- the cheapest way to travel
- the least stressful type of holiday
- the best travel snack
- the worst travel problem
- the most beautiful place for photos
- the busiest place during summer
- the most comfortable way to travel
- the friendliest type of accommodation
- the strangest thing to pack

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Example:
Category: the least stressful holiday I've ever had
Student A: The least stressful holiday I've ever had was a trip to the mountains. It was quiet, simple, and we didn't have to plan much.
Student B: Mine was a city break in May. It was interesting, but it was noisier and more crowded than Student A's trip.
Comparison:
Student A's trip was quieter and less crowded than Student B's. Student B's trip was more exciting, but also more tiring.
Group decision:
We think Student A had the least stressful holiday because there were fewer people, less noise, and less to organise.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

14. Extra task. Choose the correct options.

1. Hidden beaches usually have _____ tourists than famous beaches.
a) less
b) fewer
c) the least
2. A rainy campsite is probably _____ comfortable place to stay.
a) more
b) fewer
c) the least
3. Travelling by train is often _____ stressful than flying.
a) less
b) worse
c) the least
4. This was _____ hotel we have ever stayed in.
a) the worse
b) the worst
c) worse
5. Small towns usually have _____ traffic than big cities.
a) fewer
b) less
c) the least
6. That was _____ journey I have ever had.
a) worse
b) the worse
c) the worst



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7. Travelling with hand luggage gives you _____ problems at the airport.
a) less
b) fewer
c) the least
8. This hostel is _____ expensive than the hotel near the beach.
a) less
b) fewer
c) the least
9. Missing your passport is one of _____ travel problems.
a) worse
b) the worst
c) the worse
10. A quiet village is often _____ noisy than a city centre.
a) less
b) fewer
c) the least



15. Extra task. Match the beginnings of the sentences with their correct endings.

1. A sunrise hike is more ____	a) the most dangerous route on the map.
2. The night market was the liveliest ____	b) best coffee of the whole trip.
3. That tiny café served the ____	c) confusing than huge international airports.
4. A food tour can be ____	d) place we have visited.
5. The mountain road was ____	e) practical than a room with only a bed.
6. Small airports are often less ____	f) rewarding than a late hotel breakfast.
7. A room with a kitchen is more ____	g) prettiest area in the city.
8. The old town was the ____	h) more memorable than a museum visit.

16. Extra task. Create 10 travel awards and give winners. Two options are given.

Example:

The most useful thing to pack: a power bank

1. The worst travel problem: _____
2. The least stressful way to travel: _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

17. Extra task. Think of two real or imaginary trips and compare them.

Use:

- more/less
- fewer
- better/worse
- the best/the worst
- as...as/not as...as

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Example trips:

- a city break vs a beach holiday
- travelling alone vs travelling with friends
- a cheap trip vs a luxury trip



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4 IN A ROW

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	better place to stay	the most relaxing holiday	cheaper way to travel	the busiest place you've visited	more exciting destination	less stressful journey	fewer tourists	not as comfortable as a hotel
2	more unusual experience	the friendliest people	less expensive option	the worst journey	more stressful situation	as exciting as a city break	faster way to get around	the least crowded beach
3	the cheapest mistake	easier way to plan a trip	as relaxing as a beach holiday	more memorable trip	the least enjoyable part	safer destination	fewer problems	more convenient option
4	fewer delays	the least expensive meal	the best time to travel	less luggage	more interesting activity	not as crowded as the city	better travel partner	the most popular place
5	not as safe as before	more crowded than expected	the most disappointing place	less time to explore	as beautiful as in photos	more tiring journey	the best souvenir	fewer options
6	not as easy as it looks	fewer people than usual	the worst weather	more reliable transport	as good as people say	less noise	the least interesting museum	more organised trip
7	more enjoyable activity	the most famous landmark	less traffic	as popular as the capital	more expensive restaurant	fewer problems than before	not as friendly as expected	more relaxing experience
8	less waiting	the best view	more comfortable transport	more authentic experience	fewer flights available	the least popular destination	less planning	as quiet as the countryside

WHICH HOLIDAY SOUNDS BETTER?

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ENG HUB

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