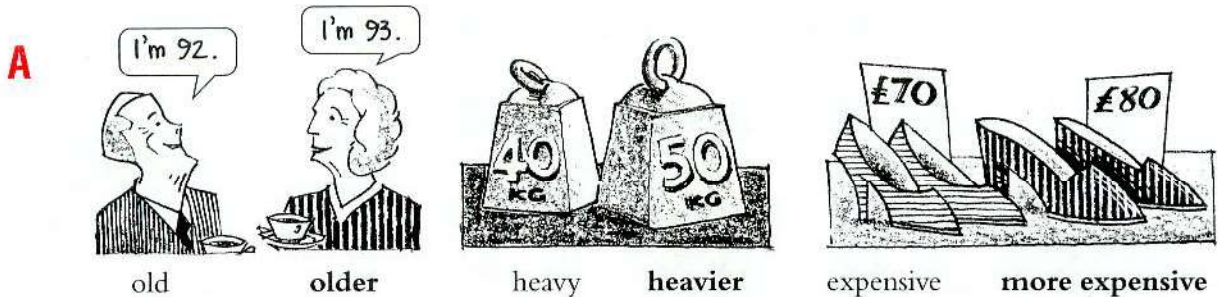


old/older expensive/more expensive



Older / heavier / more expensive are *comparative* forms.
The comparative is **-er (older)** or **more ... (more expensive)**.

B **-er (older/heavier etc.)**

Short words (1 syllable) → **-er**:

old → older	slow → slower	cheap → cheaper
nice → nicer	late → later	big → bigger

Spelling (⇒ Appendix 5): **big** → bigger hot → hotter thin → thinner

Words ending in **-y** → **-ier**:

easy → easier	heavy → heavier	early → earlier
----------------------	------------------------	------------------------

- Rome is **old** but Athens is **older**. (*not* 'more old')
- Is it **cheaper** to go by car or by train? (*not* 'more cheap')
- Helen wants a **bigger** car.
- This coat is OK but I think the other one is **nicer**.
- Don't write a letter. It's **easier** to phone. (*not* 'more easy')

far → **further**:

- 'How far is it to the station? A mile?' 'No, it's **further**. About two miles.'

C **more ...**

Long words (2/3/4 syllables) → **more ...** :

careful → more careful	polite → more polite
expensive → more expensive	interesting → more interesting

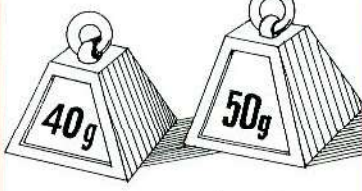
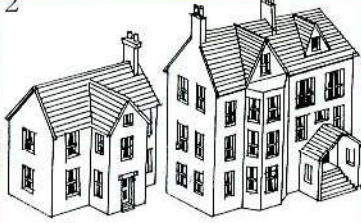
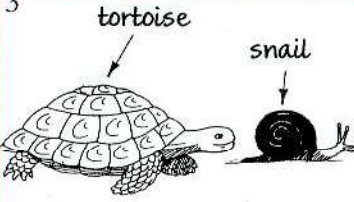
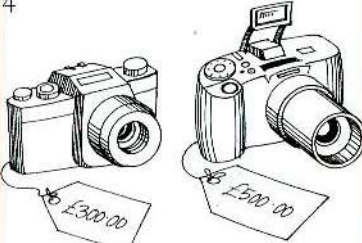
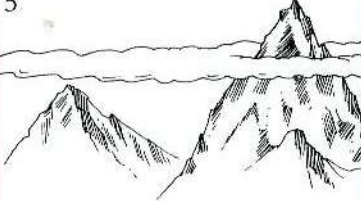
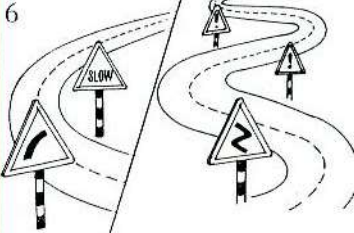
- You must be **more careful**.
- I don't like my job. I want to do something **more interesting**.
- Is it **more expensive** to go by car or by train?

D **good/well** → **better** **bad** → **worse**

- The weather wasn't very **good** yesterday but it's **better** today.
- 'Do you feel **better** today?' 'No, I feel **worse**.'
- Which is **worse** – a headache or a toothache?

EXERCISES

86.1 Look at the pictures and write the comparative (older / more interesting etc.).

<p>1</p>  <p>heavy heavier.....</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>big </p>	<p>3</p>  <p>tortoise snail</p> <p>slow </p>
<p>4</p>  <p>expensive</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>high</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>dangerous</p>

86.2 Write the comparative.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1 old <u>older</u> | 6 good |
| 2 strong | 7 large |
| 3 happy | 8 serious |
| 4 modern | 9 pretty |
| 5 important | 10 crowded |

86.3 Write the opposite.

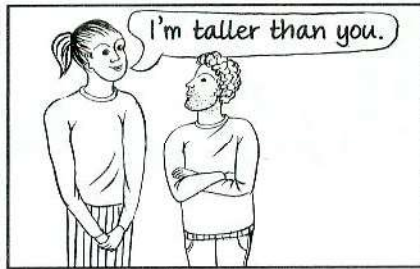
- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 younger <u>older</u> | 4 better |
| 2 colder | 5 nearer |
| 3 cheaper | 6 easier |

86.4 Complete the sentences. Use a comparative.

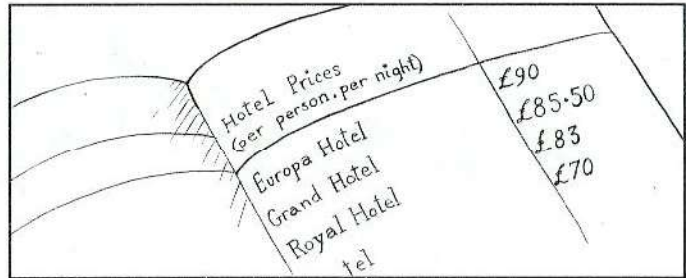
- Helen's car isn't very big. She wants a bigger one.
- My job isn't very interesting. I want to do something more interesting.
- You're not very tall. Your brother is
- David doesn't work very hard. I work
- My chair isn't very comfortable. Yours is
- Your plan isn't very good. My plan is
- These flowers aren't very nice. The blue ones are
- My bag isn't very heavy. Your bag is
- I'm not very interested in art. I'm in history.
- It isn't very warm today. It was yesterday.
- These tomatoes don't taste very good. The other ones tasted
- Britain isn't very big. France is
- London isn't very beautiful. Paris is
- This knife isn't very sharp. Have you got a one?
- People today aren't very polite. In the past they were

older than ... more expensive than ...

A



She's **taller than** him.



The Europa Hotel is **more expensive than** the Grand.

We use **than** after comparatives (**older than ... / more expensive than ... etc.**):

- Athens is **older than** Rome.
- Are oranges **more expensive than** bananas?
- It's **easier** to phone **than** to write a letter.
- 'How are you today?' 'Not bad. **Better than** yesterday.'
- The restaurant is **more crowded than** usual.

B

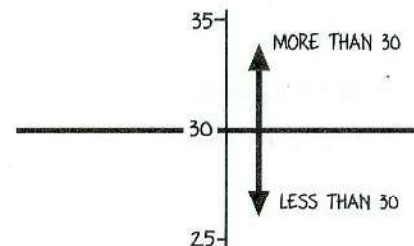
We say: **than me / than him / than her / than us / than them.** You can say:

- I can run faster **than him.** *or* I can run faster **than he can.**
- You are a better singer **than me.** *or* You are a better singer **than I am.**
- I got up earlier **than her.** *or* I got up earlier **than she did.**

C

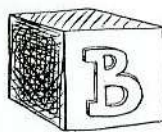
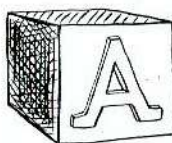
more/less than ...

- A: How much did your shoes cost? £30?
- B: No, **more than** that. (= **more than** £30)
- The film was very short – **less than** an hour.
- They've got **more money than** they need.
- You go out **more than** me.

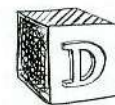
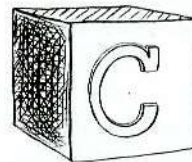


D

a bit older / much older etc.



Box A is **a bit bigger** than Box B.




Box C is **much bigger** than Box D.


a bit much	bigger	than ...
	older	
	better	
	more difficult more expensive	

- Canada is **much bigger** than France.
- Jill is **a bit older** than Gary – she's 25 and he's 24½.
- The hotel was **much more expensive** than I expected.
- You go out **much more** than me.

EXERCISES

87.1 Write sentences about Liz and Ben. Use **than**.

- 
- 1 I'm 26.
 - 2 I'm not a very good swimmer.
 - 3 I'm 1 metre 68 tall.
 - 4 I start work at 8 o'clock.
 - 5 I don't work very hard.
 - 6 I haven't got much money.
 - 7 I'm a very good driver.
 - 8 I'm not very patient.
 - 9 I'm not a very good dancer.
 - 10 I'm very intelligent.
 - 11 I speak French very well.
 - 12 I don't go to the cinema very much.

- 
- 1 I'm 24.
 - 2 I'm a very good swimmer.
 - 3 I'm 1 metre 63 tall.
 - 4 I start work at 8.30.
 - 5 I work very hard.
 - 6 I've got a lot of money.
 - 7 I'm not a very good driver.
 - 8 I'm very patient.
 - 9 I'm a good dancer.
 - 10 I'm not very intelligent.
 - 11 I don't speak French very well.
 - 12 I go to the cinema a lot.

- 1 Liz is older than Ben.
- 2 Ben is a better swimmer than Liz.
- 3 Liz is
- 4 Liz starts Ben.
- 5 Ben
- 6 Ben has got
- 7 Liz is a
- 8 Ben
- 9 Ben
- 10 Liz
- 11 Liz
- 12 Ben

87.2 Complete the sentences. Use **than**.

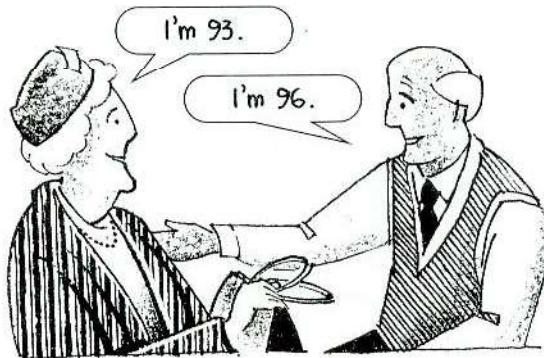
- 1 He isn't very tall. You 're taller than him. (OR ... than he is.)
- 2 She isn't very old. You're
- 3 I don't work very hard. You work
- 4 He doesn't watch TV very much. You
- 5 I'm not a very good cook. You
- 6 We don't know many people. You
- 7 They haven't got much money. You
- 8 I can't run very fast. You can
- 9 She hasn't been here very long. You
- 10 They didn't get up very early. You
- 11 He wasn't very surprised. You

87.3 Complete the sentences with **a bit** or **much** + a comparative (**older/better** etc.).

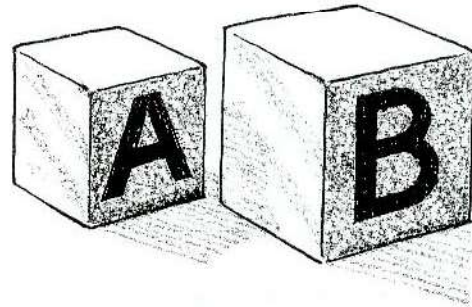
- 1 Jill is 25. Gary is 24½.
Jill is a bit older than Gary.
- 2 Jack's mother is 54. His father is 69.
Jack's mother
- 3 My camera cost £100. Yours cost £96.
My camera
- 4 Yesterday I felt terrible. Today I feel OK.
I feel
- 5 Today the temperature is 12 degrees. Yesterday it was ten degrees.
It's
- 6 Ann is an excellent tennis player. I'm not very good.
Ann

not as ... as

A not as ... as



She's old but she's **not as old as** he is.



Box A isn't **as big as** Box B.

- Rome is **not as old as** Athens. (= Athens is **older**)
- The Grand Hotel isn't **as expensive as** the Europa. (= the Europa is **more expensive**)
- I don't play tennis **as often as** you. (= you play **more often**)
- The weather is better than it was yesterday. It isn't **as cold**. (= as cold as it was **yesterday**)

B not as much as ... / not as many as ...

- I haven't got **as much money as** you. (= you've got **more money**)
- I don't know **as many people as** you. (= you know **more people**)
- I don't go out **as much as** you. (= you go out **more**)

C Compare **not as ... as** and **than**:

- Rome is **not as old as** Athens.
Athens is **older than** Rome. (*not 'older as Rome'*)
- Tennis isn't **as popular as** football.
Football is **more popular than** tennis.
- I don't go out **as much as** you.
You go out **more than** me.

D We say: as **me** / as **him** / as **her** etc. You can say:

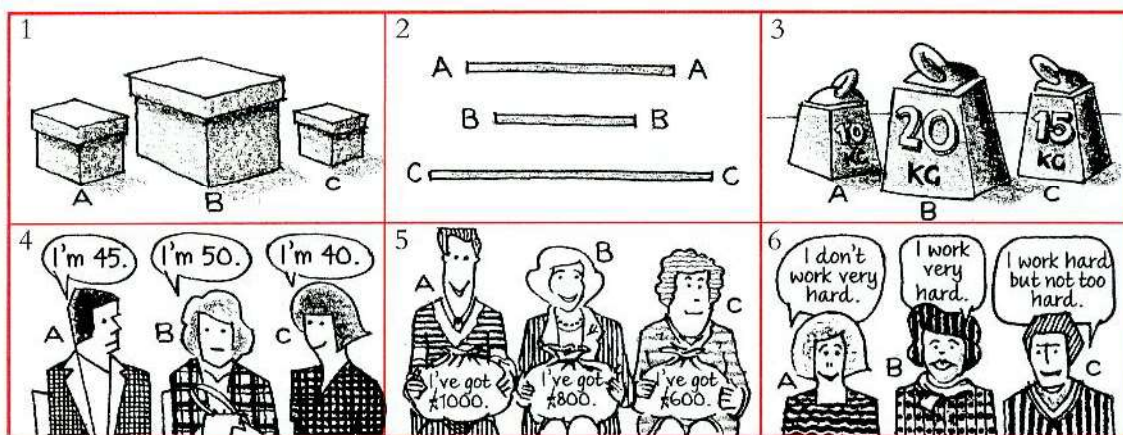
- She's not as old **as him**. or She's not as old **as he is**.
- You don't work as hard **as me**. or You don't work as hard **as I do**.

E We say **the same as** ... :

- The weather today is **the same as** yesterday.
- My hair is **the same colour as** yours.
- I arrived at **the same time as** Tim.

EXERCISES

88.1 Look at the pictures and write sentences about A, B and C.



- 1 A is bigger than C but not as big as B.
- 2 A is B but not C.
- 3 C is A but
- 4 A is but
- 5 B has got
- 6 C works

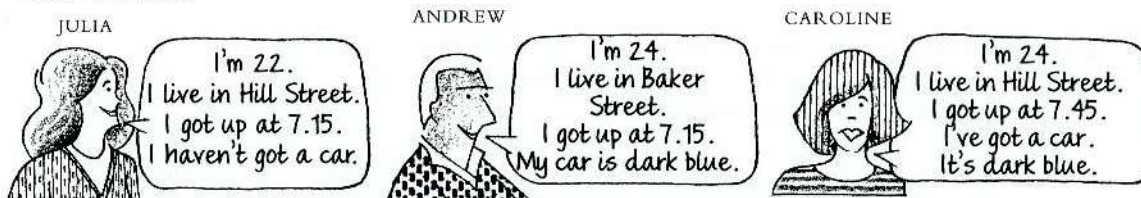
88.2 Write sentences with **as ... as ...**

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Athens is older than Rome. | Rome <u>isn't as old as Athens.</u> |
| 2 My room is bigger than yours. | Your room isn't |
| 3 You got up earlier than me. | I didn't |
| 4 We played better than them. | They |
| 5 I've been here longer than you. | You |
| 6 She's more nervous than him. | He |

88.3 Put in **as** or **than**.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Athens is older <u>than</u> Rome. | 5 Jim isn't as clever he thinks. |
| 2 I don't watch TV as much you. | 6 Belgium is smaller Switzerland. |
| 3 You eat more me. | 7 Brazil isn't as big Canada. |
| 4 I feel better I felt yesterday. | 8 I can't wait longer an hour. |

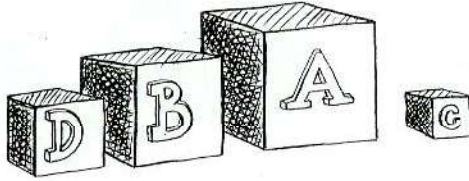
88.4 Use the information to complete the sentences about Julia, Andrew and Caroline. Use **the same age / the same street** etc.



- 1 (age) Andrew is the same age as Caroline.
- 2 (street) Julia lives
- 3 (time) Julia got up
- 4 (colour) Andrew's

the oldest the most expensive

A



- Box A is **bigger than** Box B.
- Box A is **bigger than** all the other boxes.
- Box A is **the biggest** box.

HOTEL PRICES IN KINTON (per person · per night)			
Europa Hotel	£95	Grosvenor	£60
Grand Hotel	£85.50	Bennetts	£58
Royal	£85	Carlton	£55
Asloria	£70	Star	£50
Palace	£65	Station	£45

- The Europa Hotel is **more expensive than** the Grand.
- The Europa Hotel is **more expensive than** all the other hotels in the town.
- The Europa Hotel is **the most expensive** hotel in the town.

Bigger / older / more expensive etc. are comparative forms (⇒ Unit 86).
Biggest / oldest / most expensive etc. are superlative forms.

B

The superlative form is **-est (oldest) or most ... (most expensive)**:

Short words (old/cheap/nice etc.) → the -est:		
old → the oldest	cheap → the cheapest	nice → the nicest
but good → the best	bad → the worst	
Spelling (⇒ Appendix 5): big → the biggest hot → the hottest		
Words ending in -y (easy/heavy etc.) → the -iest:		
easy → the easiest	heavy → the heaviest	pretty → the prettiest
Long words (careful/expensive/interesting etc.) → the most ... :		
careful → the most careful	interesting → the most interesting	

C

We say: **the oldest ... / the most expensive ... etc.** (with **the**):

- The church is very old. It's **the oldest** building in the town.
(= it is **older than** all the other buildings)
- What is **the longest** river in the world?
- Money is important but it isn't **the most important** thing in life.
- Excuse me, where is **the nearest** bank?

D

You can use **the oldest / the best / the most expensive etc.** without a noun:

- Ken is a good player but he isn't **the best** in the team.
(**the best** = the best player)

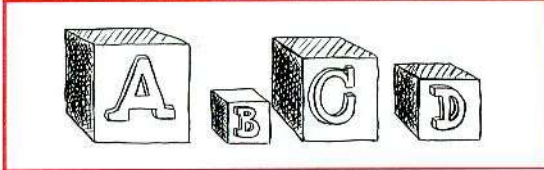
E

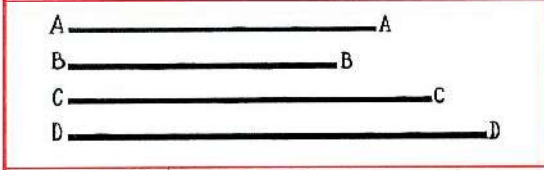
superlative + **I've ever ... / you've ever ... etc.**

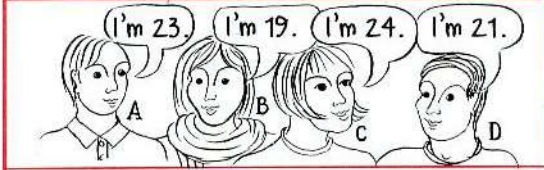
- The film was very bad. I think it's **the worst** film **I've ever seen**.
- What is **the most unusual** thing **you've ever done**?

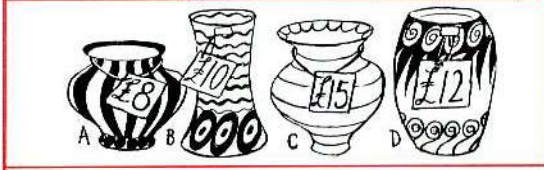
EXERCISES

89.1 Write sentences with comparatives (**older** etc.) and superlatives (**the oldest** etc.).

1 

2 

3 

4 

5

RESTAURANT	A	excellent
RESTAURANT	B	not bad
RESTAURANT	C	good but not wonderful
RESTAURANT	D	awful

(big/small)
 (A/D) A is bigger than D.
 (A) A is the biggest.
 (B) B is the smallest.

(long/short)
 (C/A) C is A.
 (D) D is
 (B) B

(young/old)
 (D/C) D
 (B)
 (C)

(expensive/cheap)
 (D/A)
 (C)
 (A)

(good/bad)
 (A/C)
 (A)
 (D)

89.2 Complete the sentences. Use a superlative (**the oldest** etc.).

- This building is very old. It's the oldest building in the town.
- It was a very happy day. It was of my life.
- It's a very good film. It's I've ever seen.
- She's a very popular singer. She's in the country.
- It was a very bad mistake. It was I've ever made.
- It's a very pretty village. It's I've ever seen.
- It was a very cold day. It was of the year.
- He's a very boring person. He's I've ever met.

89.3 Write sentences with a superlative (**the longest** etc.).

Sydney	Brazil	large	country	planet	the USA	the solar system
Everest	Jupiter	long	city	state	Africa	South America
Alaska	the Nile	high	river	mountain	the world	Australia

- Sydney is the largest city in Australia.
- Everest
-
-
-
-

UNIT 86

86.1

- 2 bigger
- 3 slower
- 4 more expensive
- 5 higher
- 6 more dangerous

86.2

- 2 stronger
- 3 happier
- 4 more modern
- 5 more important
- 6 better
- 7 larger
- 8 more serious
- 9 prettier
- 10 more crowded

86.3

- 2 hotter/warmer
- 3 more expensive
- 4 worse
- 5 further
- 6 more difficult *or* harder

86.4

- 3 taller
- 4 harder
- 5 more comfortable
- 6 better
- 7 nicer
- 8 heavier
- 9 more interested
- 10 warmer
- 11 better
- 12 bigger
- 13 more beautiful
- 14 sharper
- 15 more polite

UNIT 87

87.1

- 3 Liz is taller than Ben.
- 4 Liz starts work earlier than Ben.
- 5 Ben works harder than Liz.
- 6 Ben has got more money than Liz.
- 7 Liz is a better driver than Ben.
- 8 Ben is more patient than Liz.
- 9 Ben is a better dancer than Liz.
/ Ben dances better than Liz.
- 10 Liz is more intelligent than Ben.

- 11 Liz speaks French better than Ben. / Liz speaks better French than Ben. / Liz's French is better than Ben's.
- 12 Ben goes to the cinema more than Liz. / ... more often than Liz.

87.2

- 2 You're older than her. / ... than she is.
- 3 You work harder than me. / ... than I do.
- 4 You watch TV more than him. / ... than he does.
- 5 You're a better cook than me. / ... than I am. *or* You cook better than me. / ... than I do.
- 6 You know more people than us. / ... than we do.
- 7 You've got more money than them. / ... than they have.
- 8 You can run faster than me. / ... than I can.
- 9 You've been here longer than her. / ... than she has.
- 10 You got up earlier than them. / ... than they did.
- 11 You were more surprised than him. / ... than he was.

87.3

- 2 Jack's mother is much younger than his father.
- 3 My camera cost a bit more than yours. / ... than your camera. *or* My camera was a bit more expensive than ...
- 4 I feel much better today than yesterday. / ... than I did yesterday. / ... than I felt yesterday.
- 5 It's a bit warmer today than yesterday. / ... than it was yesterday.
- 6 Ann is a much better tennis player than me / than I am. *or* Ann is much better at tennis than me / than I am. *or* Ann plays tennis much better than me / than I do.

UNIT 88

88.1

- 2 A is longer than B but not as long as C.
- 3 C is heavier than A but not as heavy as B.
- 4 A is older than C but not as old as B.
- 5 B has got more money than C but not as much as A. *or* ... but less (money) than A.
- 6 C works harder than A but not as hard as B.

88.2

- 2 Your room isn't as big as mine. / ... as my room.
- 3 I didn't get up as early as you. / ... as you did.
- 4 They didn't play as well as us. / ... as we did.
- 5 You haven't been here as long as me. / ... as I have.
- 6 He isn't as nervous as her. / ... as she is.

88.3

- 2 as 6 than
- 3 than 7 as
- 4 than 8 than
- 5 as

88.4

- 2 Julia lives in the same street as Caroline.
- 3 Julia got up at the same time as Andrew.
- 4 Andrew's car is the same colour as Caroline's.

UNIT 89

89.1

- 2 C is longer than A.
D is the longest.
B is the shortest.
- 3 D is younger than C.
B is the youngest.
C is the oldest.
- 4 D is more expensive than A.
C is the most expensive.
A is the cheapest.
- 5 A is better than C.
A is the best.
D is the worst.

KEY TO EXERCISES

89.2

- 2 the happiest day
- 3 the best film
- 4 the most popular singer
- 5 the worst mistake
- 6 the prettiest village
- 7 the coldest day
- 8 the most boring person

89.3

- 2 Everest is the highest mountain in the world.
- 3-6
Alaska is the largest state in the USA.
Brazil is the largest country in South America.
Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system.
The Nile is the longest river in Africa. / ... in the world.

UNIT 90

90.1

- 2 enough chairs
- 3 enough paint
- 4 enough wind

90.2

- 2 The car isn't big enough.
- 3 His legs aren't long enough.
- 4 He isn't strong enough.

90.3

- 3 old enough
- 4 enough time
- 5 big enough
- 6 eat enough
- 7 enough fruit
- 8 tired enough
- 9 practise enough

90.4

- 2 sharp enough to cut
- 3 warm enough to have
- 4 enough bread to make
- 5 well enough to win
- 6 enough time to read

UNIT 91

91.1

- 2 too heavy
- 3 too low

- 4 too fast
- 5 too big
- 6 too crowded

91.2

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| 3 enough | 8 enough |
| 4 too many | 9 too |
| 5 too | 10 too many |
| 6 enough | 11 too much |
| 7 too much | |

91.3

- 3 It's too far.
- 4 It's too expensive.
- 5 It isn't / It's not big enough.
- 6 It was too difficult.
- 7 It isn't good enough.
- 8 I'm too busy.
- 9 It was too long.

91.4

- 2 too early to go to bed.
- 3 too young to get married.
- 4 too dangerous to go out at night.
- 5 too late to phone Ann (now).
- 6 too surprised to say anything.

UNIT 92

92.1

- 3 I like this picture very much.
- 4 Tom started his new job last week.
- 5 OK
- 6 Jane bought a present for her friend. *or* Jane bought her friend a present.
- 7 I drink three cups of coffee every day.
- 8 OK
- 9 I borrowed fifty pounds from my brother.

92.2

- 2 I wrote two letters this morning.
- 3 Paul passed the exam easily.
- 4 Ann doesn't speak French very well.
- 5 I did a lot of work yesterday.
- 6 Do you know London well?
- 7 We enjoyed the party very much.
- 8 I explained the problem carefully.
- 9 We met some friends at the airport.

- 10 Did you buy that jacket in England?
- 11 We do the same thing every day.
- 12 I don't like football very much.

92.3

- 2 I arrived at the hotel early.
- 3 Julia goes to Italy every year.
- 4 We have lived here since 1988.
- 5 Sue was born in London in 1960.
- 6 Paul didn't go to work yesterday.
- 7 Ann went to the bank yesterday afternoon.
- 8 I had my breakfast in bed this morning.
- 9 Barbara is going to university in October.
- 10 I saw a beautiful bird in the garden this morning.
- 11 My parents have been to the United States many times.
- 12 I left my umbrella in the restaurant last night.
- 13 Are you going to the cinema tomorrow evening?
- 14 I took the children to school this morning.

UNIT 93

93.1

- 2 He always gets up early.
- 3 He's / He is never late for work.
- 4 He sometimes gets angry.
- 5 He often goes swimming.
- 6 He's / He is usually at home in the evenings.

93.2

- 2 Susan is always polite.
- 3 I usually finish work at 5 o'clock.
- 4 Jill has just started a new job.
- 5 I rarely go to bed before midnight.
- 6 The bus isn't usually late.
- 7 I don't often eat fish.
- 8 I will never forget what you said.
- 9 Have you ever lost your passport?
- 10 Do you still work in the same place?