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C1 Advanced
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ADVANCED COMPARATIVES 2

Progressive comparison

We can describe how something increases or decreases in intensity by repeating more or the same comparative adjective, with and between the forms:

- It gets **more and more** difficult to understand what is going on.
- House prices are getting **higher and higher**.

We can also use the adverb “increasingly”+ adjective to do the same.

- Doctors are growing **increasingly** concerned about his condition.
- Marketing techniques are becoming **increasingly** sophisticated.

Double comparatives

We use double comparatives with “the” to say that one situation leads to another. Note the use of the comma after the first clause.

- **The more** you read, **the more** you'll learn.
- **The more** I thought about it, **the less** I liked the idea.
- **The less** I see of him, **the better!**

We sometimes omit the verb be in the clauses:

- **The more** sophisticated the product, **the more** substantial the potential profit.

Contrastive comparison

When we contrast two related qualities, we always use more (not -er):

- Her eyes are **more** green **than** grey.
- His behaviour was **more** strange **than** suspicious.

We can also use not so much ... as or rather than:

- I'm not **so much** disappointed **as** sad.
- Her eyes are green **rather than** grey
- I'm not **so much** angry **as** relieved.