

LESSON 3 COMPARE THINGS

1 VOCABULARY Technology adjectives



SIMON HARRIS
@SimonH

Guess what arrived in the mail today? Can't wait to use it at the office ...



A 04-15 Listen. Then listen and repeat.

\$\$\$\$

1kg

3.4GHz

20cm x 30cm x 1cm

Expensive
Light
Fast
Thin



New

\$

3kg

1.1GHz

23cm x 33cm x 3cm

Cheap
Heavy
Slow
Bulky




Old

B Which words in 1A can you use to describe these things?

\$\$\$\$

30g



\$\$

4.2GHz



\$\$\$\$

500g

24cm x 17cm x 1cm



C PAIRS Which technology do you have or use? Tell your partner and use the words in 1A to describe the things. Does your partner use the same words to describe his or her things?

A: Well, my phone is new, but it's big and bulky.

B: Really? Mine is old, but it's really thin.



2 GRAMMAR Comparative adjectives: Regular and irregular

Use comparative adjectives to compare two people or things.

	Adjective	Comparative adjective
For most one-syllable adjectives, add -(e)r for the comparative.	fast cheap	faster cheaper
For one-syllable adjectives ending in one vowel + one consonant, double the final consonant and add -er .	thin big	thinner bigger
For two-syllable adjectives ending in y , drop the y and add -ier .	easy dirty	easier dirtier
For most adjectives with two or more syllables, use more / less + the adjective.	expensive interesting	more expensive less interesting

Notes

- Use **than** when you use a comparative adjective in front of a noun.
Laptops are more expensive **than** tablets.
- Some adjectives have irregular forms: good → **better** bad → **worse**

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3 PRONUNCIATION

- A** ▶ 04-17 Listen. Notice the stressed and unstressed words. Then listen and repeat.

Laptops are **bigger** than tablets.

Tablets are **less expensive** than laptops.

- B** ▶ 04-18 Listen. Underline the stressed words.

Then listen again and circle the letters that have the unstressed sound /ə/.
Check your answers with a partner.

- Cell phones are more expensive than tablets.
- Laptops are newer than cell phones.
- Tablets are heavier than cell phones.
- Phone calls are better than emails.
- Computers are faster than cell phones.

- C PAIRS** Talk about the statements in 3A and 3B. Which do you think are true?

Stress in comparative sentences

In comparatives, we stress the adjective and words like *more*. The word *than* is usually unstressed and pronounced with the short, weak vowel /ə/: /ðən/.

The unstressed *are* has the same sound /ə/ as the *-er* in *bigger*.

4 CONVERSATION



- A** ▶ 04-19 Listen or watch. Complete the sentences.

Circle all the correct answers.

- Simon's new laptop is ____ than his old one.
 - better
 - more expensive
 - faster
- Zoey says her tablet is ____ .
 - light
 - easy to use
 - bulky
- Simon says laptops are ____ than tablets.
 - better for work
 - smaller
 - faster



- B** ▶ 04-20 Listen or watch. Complete the conversation.



Simon: I just got a new **laptop**.

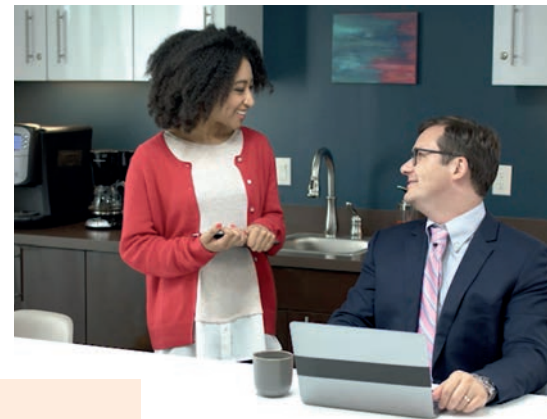
Zoey: Oh, yeah? How do you like it?

Simon: It's _____ my old one. It's a lot _____

Zoey: I have a **laptop**, but I just use it for work.

Simon: Really?

Zoey: Yeah. I like my **tablet**. I carry it everywhere. It's **thin**, so it's **light**.



- C** ▶ 04-21 Listen and repeat. Then practice with a partner.

- D PAIRS** Make new conversations. Use these words or your own ideas.

desktop computer

laptop **small**

not heavy

5 TRY IT YOURSELF

MAKE IT PERSONAL Compare two different things. For example, you can compare your phone with your partner's phone, or you can compare two different kinds of things. Which thing is better?

A: Your phone is *newer* than my phone.

B: It's *lighter* than yours, too.

■ I CAN COMPARE THINGS.

