Unit 9 · Comparison and Contrast

HARDER PRACTICE QUESTIONS · ANSWER KEY

Full marks 28

Give the marks for the points in the marking scheme; an answer in other words that says the same is right.

1 Which grew the most?

ANSWER

HA · 7

Tests: two different measures of "the biggest rise" (percentage points added, and how many times bigger) can name different winners; reading a year's numbers, not the rise, for "more households had…"; *not as … as* and the comparative for the same fact.

a.

Households with…	2015	2025	Rise (points)	Times as many
a mobile phone	60%	95%	**35**	**1.6**
a motorbike	10%	40%	**30**	**4.0**
a fridge	4%	28%	**24**	**7.0**
a TV	30%	55%	**25**	**1.8**

b. **The mobile phone** rose by the most points (35). **The fridge** grew to the most times its 2015 number (7 times). The phone was already in most homes in 2015, so it could add many households but couldn't multiply much; the fridge started tiny, so a smaller rise in points was a big jump in times. (The tempting answer names one item for both.)

c.

1. **True:** 35 points, more than 30, 25 or 24.
2. **False:** seven times as many is right (28 is 7 × 4), but that is the measure in times. In percentage points the fridge rose by the **fewest**, 24. (The tempting answer is *true*, mixing up the two measures.)
3. **False:** in 2025, 40% had a motorbike and 55% a TV. The motorbike **rose** more (30 points against 25), but fewer households had one.

d. Models: ***In 2025, motorbikes were not as common as TVs*** (40% against 55%). ***More households had a TV than a motorbike*** (or *TVs were more common than motorbikes*).

MARKING SCHEME

- ✓ a. The rise in points: 35, 30, 24, 25.
- ✓ a. Times as many: 1.6, 4.0, 7.0, 1.8.
- ✓ b. The phone by points; the fridge by times.
- ✓ c. 1 true; 2 false: the fridge rose by the fewest points, though the most times over.
- ✓ c. 3 false: fewer households had a motorbike, though it rose more.
- ✓ d. A correct *not as … as* sentence.
- ✓ d. A correct comparative with *than*.

2 What must be true?

ANSWER

Tests: *not as tall as* means shorter, *as tall as* means the same; joining clues to reach a conclusion; telling what must be true from what might be; one clue that settles an order.

a.

1. **True.** Ankit is shorter than Diya (clue 1), shorter than Sapana (clue 2) and so shorter than Yugin, who is as tall as Sapana (clue 3), and shorter than Aarav, the tallest (clue 4).

Science Playground, Katunje, Bhaktapur
Book a class visit: https://science-playground.com/booking

2. **False.** Yugin is **as tall as** Sapana (clue 3): the same height. HA · 6
3. **Can't tell.** We know both Diya and Yugin are taller than Ankit, but no clue compares Diya with Yugin or Sapana.
4. **True.** Aarav is the tallest of all five, so Sapana is shorter than he is.
5. **False.** Diya is taller than Ankit (clue 1).
   (The tempting mistake is to write **False** for 3: it isn't false, only not known.)

b. *Ankit is not as tall as Sapana* means **Ankit is shorter** than Sapana: Ankit has less height. She has read it the wrong way round: she is the **taller** one.

c. ***Yugin is not as tall as Diya*** (or *Sapana is not as tall as Diya*). Order: **Aarav, Diya, Sapana and Yugin (the same height), Ankit.**

MARKING SCHEME

✓ a. 1 and 4: true, with reasons.
✓ a. 2 and 5: false, with reasons.
✓ a. 3: can't tell, because no clue compares Diya with Yugin or Sapana.
✓ b. *Not as tall as* means shorter: Ankit is shorter, Sapana taller.
✓ c. A *not as … as* clue that puts Diya above Sapana and Yugin.
✓ c. The order: Aarav, Diya, Sapana and Yugin, Ankit.

3 Adjective or adverb?

ANSWER A · 5

Tests: an adjective describes a thing (*her voice*, *his game*), an adverb how something is done (*sings*, *drives*); an *-ly* adverb compares with *more / the most*; *of the two* takes the comparative, *of all* the superlative; *good* and *well* both become *better*.

a.

1. **the most beautifully** (how she sings; *of all*; *most beautifully*, without *the*, is also right)
2. **more beautiful** (what her voice is like; *than*)
3. **more carefully** (how he drives; *of the two*: two drivers, so the comparative; *the more carefully* is also right)
4. **better** (how he played: *well* → *better*)
5. **better** (what his game was like: *good* → *better*)
6. **the most fluently** (how she speaks; *of us all*; *most fluently* is also right)
   The tempting mistakes: *more beautiful* in 1 and *the most carefully* in 3 (people say it, but in careful writing two things take the comparative).

b. In 4, the word says **how he played**, so it is the adverb *well*, whose comparative is *better*. In 5, it says **what his game was like** (after *was*), so it is the adjective *good*, whose comparative is also *better*. Two different words share one comparative.

c. In 1 the word tells **how she sings** (it goes with the verb), so it is an adverb, *beautifully*. In 2 it tells **what her voice is like** (it goes with the noun *voice*, after *is*), so it is an adjective, *beautiful*.

MARKING SCHEME

✓ a. 1 and 6: *(the) most beautifully*, *(the) most fluently*.
✓ a. 2 and 3: *more beautiful*, *more carefully*.
✓ a. 4 and 5: *better* both times.
✓ b. 4 is how he played (*well*), 5 what the game was like (*good*); both become *better*.
✓ c. 1 says how she sings (adverb); 2 what her voice is like (adjective).

4 The table in words

ANSWER

Tests: the plan of a description of a table (what it shows, the big picture, details with numbers, a closing sentence), comparatives and *not as … as* used on real numbers, and percentage points used correctly.

Science Playground, Katunje, Bhaktapur
Book a class visit: https://science-playground.com/booking

A model: A · 5

The table shows how many households in our ward owned four things in 2015 and in 2025. Every one of them became more common. Mobile phones rose the most, by 35 percentage points, so by 2025 nearly every home (95%) had one. Fridges were still the rarest, but they grew the most times over: seven times as many homes had one in 2025 as in 2015. Motorbikes were not as common as TVs, though they rose by more points. Overall, our ward owns far more than it did ten years ago.

MARKING SCHEME

- ✓ Says what the table shows (the four things, the two years).
- ✓ The big picture (everything rose).
- ✓ Two details with numbers, correctly read, at least one in percentage points.
- ✓ A correct *not as … as* (or another comparison) on the table.
- ✓ A closing sentence that sums it up.

5 Testing a rule for -er and more

ANSWER A · 5

Tests: building comparatives and testing a rule against examples, as a scientist would; two-syllable words ending in *-y* take *-ier*; the irregular comparatives are new words, whatever their length.

a. **funnier, better, more careful, busier, worse, more famous, tastier, farther** (or **further**), **more crowded, more honest.** (Not *more funny* or *funnyer*; not *gooder*, *badder* or *farer*; not *honester*.)

b. It breaks in two ways.

- ***Funny, busy* and *tasty***: two syllables, but they take *-er*. All three **end in -y**, and the *y* changes to *i* (*funnier*).
- ***Good, bad* and *far***: one syllable, but they don't take *-er* at all. They are **irregular**: the comparative is a new word (*better, worse, farther*).
  The tempting answer names *careful* or *crowded*, which follow the rule.

c. A model: ***Words of one syllable take -er, except the irregular ones (good → better, bad → worse, far → farther). Words of two syllables that end in -y change the y to i and take -er. Other words of two or more syllables take more.***

MARKING SCHEME

- ✓ a. *funnier, busier, tastier* and the five words with *more*.
- ✓ a. *better, worse, farther* (or *further*).
- ✓ b. *Funny, busy, tasty*: two syllables ending in -y, so -ier.
- ✓ b. *Good, bad, far*: irregular, a new word instead of -er.
- ✓ c. A rule with both cases.

Marks by level	Knowledge	Understanding	Application	Higher ability	Total
Marks	0	0	15	13	28

Science Playground, Katunje, Bhaktapur
Book a class visit: https://science-playground.com/booking