

GRAMMAR FOCUS: COMPARATIVES

There are many ways to compare things. Often, we use an adjective and one of the following sentences patterns:

Expressions for Comparing Two Objects	
cheap, easy to use	cheaper (<i>than</i>), easier to use (<i>than</i>)
comfortable, powerful	more comfortable (<i>than</i>), more powerful (<i>than</i>)
not cheap, not comfortable	not as cheap (<i>as</i>), not as comfortable (<i>as</i>)




As a class: Look at the advertisements below and make comparisons between the products:

COOL WALKERS

 inexpensive,
 comfortable,
 easy to clean
 with tax: Just **\$39.00**

Advantages of Cool Walkers

- (1) Cool Walkers are *not as expensive as* Slim Jimms.
- (2) _____
- (3) _____

SLIM JIMMS
 with tax,
 only \$47.00
 Famous,
 High quality,
 Fashionable,


Advantages of Slim Jimms:

- (1) Slim Jimms are *more durable than* Cool Walkers.
- (2) _____
- (3) _____


Work in pairs. Compare these items. Write your comparisons down in your workbook or on a separate piece of paper. (Teachers, lengthen it: A longer more in-depth activity is available from the teacher's manual).

LUMBER JACK

BURGER
 spicy
 delicious
 filling
 \$7.99

VEGETARIAN SUB

 not greasy
 low in fat
 healthy
 \$6.99

THE BOSS Z42

 comfortable,
 powerful,
 roomy

THE VOOMETTE

 inexpensive, compact,
 environmentally friendly

fast,
 affordable,
 easy to install,

ACCOUNT DOCTOR
 SOFTWARE

safe,
 easy to use,
 reliable

BUDGET MASTER
 SOFTWARE

IDIOM CORNER:



That's like comparing apples and oranges.

This means that two things are so different that you can't compare them.

CONVERSATION: SHOPPING FOR NEW SHOES

Look at the conversation below. When you do the shopping role-play, use this conversation as a guide.

Clerk: Welcome to Kenny's Shoes. We're having a sale on dress shoes.

Shopper: That's great. I need some dress shoes. What do you have on sale?

Clerk: Well, we have Silver Jims and Cool Walkers.

Shopper: What do you recommend?

Clerk: Well, Silver Jimms are more fashionable and higher quality. Whereas, Cool Walkers are not as expensive and they're more comfortable.

Shopper: What's the difference in price?

Clerk: With tax, the Silver Jims come to \$47.00 and the Cool Walkers come to \$39.00.

Shopper: So that's about an \$8.00 difference.

Clerk: That's right.

Shopper: I'll take the Cool Walkers.

Clerk: How would you like to pay?

Shopper: I'll put it on my credit card.

...

Clerk: Alright, here's your receipt. Have a nice day.

Shopper: Thanks.



ROLE-PLAY: SHOPPING



You are going on a vacation and you need to do some shopping before you go.

- (1) **Open a store:** The teacher will give you a store with two products. Write your product information in the blank spaces.
- (2) **Make a shopping list:** The teacher will give you a shopping list.
- (3) **Make a budget:** The teacher will write down your budget for cash, checks, and credit cards.
- (4) **Go shopping:** Visit other student stores and decide what you will buy. Write the other store's product information in your table.

ROLE-PLAY: SHOPPING

cont . . .

(1) Write down your product information:

Store Name: _____

Product 1: _____		Product 2: _____	
Advantages	Comparative	Advantages	Comparative

(2) Write down the items on your shopping list:



- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| (1) _____ | (5) _____ |
| (2) _____ | (6) _____ |
| (3) _____ | (7) _____ |
| (4) _____ | (8) _____ |

(3) Write down your budget:

Budget: Cash \$ _____, Checks \$ _____, Credit Cards \$ _____



(4) Go shopping:

Store	Products	Advantages	Price	Payment
Kenny's Shoes	Silver Jimms	more fashionable, higher quality	\$47.00	Credit card
	Cool Walkers	not as expensive, more comfortable	\$39.00	X