

# Language summary

## Grammar

### Comparisons with adjectives

Comparisons with <i>-er</i> or <i>more</i>	Comparisons with <i>(not) as</i>
Tiananmen Square is <b>bigger than</b> Red Square.	Red Square is <b>not as big as</b> Tiananmen Square.
Rome is <b>sunnier than</b> Seattle.	Seattle is <b>not as sunny as</b> Rome.
The Empire State Building is <b>more famous</b> than the Sears Tower.	The Sears Tower is <b>not as famous as</b> the Empire State Building.

- Use the comparison form adjective + *-er* + *than* with one-syllable adjectives (*short* – *shorter than*), and with most two-syllable adjectives ending in -y (*sunny* – *sunnier*).
- Use *more* + adjective + *than* with other two-syllable adjectives (*famous* – *more famous than*) and adjectives with three or more syllables.
- Some adjectives are irregular (*good* – *better*).
- Use *not* + *as* + adjective + *as* for another way to express comparisons.  
“*Seattle is not as sunny as Rome*,” means the same thing as “*Rome is sunnier than Seattle*.”

### Comparisons with nouns

Comparisons with <i>more</i>
The subway in Paris has <b>more stops than</b> the subway in Washington D.C.
Some bridges can carry <b>more traffic than</b> others.

- Use this comparison form to compare plural count nouns or noncount nouns.  
*The New York City subway has more riders today than it did 30 years ago.*  
NOT *The New York City subway has ~~more rider~~ today than it did 30 years ago.*

### Superlatives with adjectives

Superlative with <i>-est</i> or <i>most</i>
<b>The wettest</b> city in the world is Cherrapunji, India.
Yuma, Arizona, in the United States is <b>the sunniest</b> city.
Macchu Picchu is one of <b>the most interesting</b> places I know.

- Use the superlative form *the* + adjective + *-est* with one-syllable adjectives (*big* – *the biggest*), and with most two-syllable adjectives ending in -y (*sunny* – *sunniest*).
- Use *the* + *most* + adjective with other two-syllable adjectives (*famous* – *the most famous*) and adjectives with three or more syllables.

### Superlatives with nouns

Superlatives with <i>the most</i>
Norway may have <b>the most waterfalls</b> in the world.
Yuma, Arizona, gets <b>the most sunshine</b> in the world.

- Use this superlative form to compare plural count nouns or noncount nouns.

## Vocabulary

### Human-made wonders

bridge  
canal  
plaza  
skyscraper  
stadium  
subway system  
tower  
tunnel

### Geographical features

desert  
island  
lake  
ocean  
rain forest  
river  
valley  
waterfall

## Functions

### Expressing disbelief

No way!  
Seriously?  
I don't believe it!

### Saying you don't know

I really don't know.  
I have no idea.  
I don't have a clue.