

A2

SPANISH GRAMMAR

COMPARATIVES, SUPERLATIVES AND QUANTITY

Compare, express more and say how much

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1 COMPARATIVES OF SUPERIORITY más + adjective/adverb + que

We use it to say that something has a higher degree than something else.

Mi casa es **más grande que** la tuya.
My house is bigger than yours.

Marta habla **más rápido que** Carlos.
Marta speaks faster than Carlos.

Tengo **más libros que** tú.
I have more books than you.



más... que

2 COMPARATIVES OF INFERIORITY menos + adjective/adverb + que

We use it to say that something has a lower degree than something else.

Este coche es **menos caro que** aquel.
This car is cheaper than that one.

Ana conduce **menos rápido que** Pedro.
Ana drives more slowly than Pedro.

Tengo **menos tiempo que** tú.
I have less time than you.



menos... que

3 COMPARATIVES OF EQUALITY tan + adjective/adverb + como

We use it to say that two things have the same degree or are equal.

Marta es **tan alta como** Laura.
Marta is as tall as Laura.

Este examen es **tan difícil como** el anterior.
This exam is as difficult as the previous one.

Carlos habla **tan rápido como** Ana.
Carlos speaks as fast as Ana.



tan... como

4 TANTO/A/OS/AS + NOUN + COMO

We use tanto/a/os/as to compare quantities. It must agree with the noun.

	Masculine	Feminine
Singular	tanto	tanta
Plural	tantos	tantas



Tengo **tanto trabajo como** tú.
I have as much work as you.

Marta tiene **tanta paciencia como** su profesora.
Marta has as much patience as her teacher.

Tenemos **tantos libros como** vosotros.
We have as many books as you.

tanto/a/os/as
... como

5 SPECIAL COMPARATIVES

Some common adjectives have irregular forms.

Adjective	Comparative
bueno	mejor
malo	peor
grande (size/age)	mayor
pequeño (size/age)	menor

Este restaurante es **mejor que** aquel.
This restaurant is better than that one.

El examen fue **peor que** el anterior.
The exam was worse than the previous one.

Mi hermana es **mayor que** yo.
My sister is older than me.

6 SUPERLATIVES

el / la / los / las + más / menos + adjective + de

We use them to highlight one element in a group.

Carlos es **el más alto de** la familia.
Carlos is the tallest in the family.

Esta es **la ciudad más bonita de** la región.
This is the most beautiful city in the region.

Son **los ejercicios más difíciles de** la unidad.
They are the most difficult exercises in the unit.

Marta es **la menos tímida del** grupo.
Marta is the least shy in the group.



el/la más...
de

7 EXPRESSING QUANTITY mucho, poco, bastante, demasiado

We use these words to indicate how much of something there is.

Word	Meaning
mucho/a/os/as	a lot of
poco/a/os/as	a little / not much
bastante	quite a lot / enough
demasiado/a/os/as	too much



mucho
poco
bastante
demasiado

Tengo **mucho** trabajo. I have a lot of work.

Hay **bastante** comida. There is quite a lot of food.

Tenemos **poco** tiempo. We have little time.

Hay **demasiada** gente. There are too many people.

8 MUCHO OR MUY: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

MUY + adjective/adverb

We use **muy** to intensify a quality or an adverb.

Es **muy** interesante.
It's very interesting.

Marta habla **muy** rápido.
Marta speaks very quickly.



muy + adjective/
adverb

MUCHO/A/OS/AS + noun

We use **mucho** to talk about quantity. It agrees with the noun.

Tengo **mucho** trabajo.
I have a lot of work.

Hay **muchas** personas.
There are a lot of people.



mucho/a/os/as + noun

9 QUICK SUMMARY

Function	Structure
More than	más + adj. + que
Less than	menos + adj. + que
As ... as	tan + adj. + como
Same quantity	tanto/a/os/as + noun + como
Irregular comparatives	mejor, peor, mayor, menor
Superlative	el/la/los/las + más/menos + adj. + de
Intensity	muy + adj. / adv.
Quantity	mucho, poco, bastante, demasiado



Practice makes progress!

Keep practising and start using comparatives, superlatives and quantity with confidence.

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