

**ENGLISH** 

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Lecture:07

# DOUBLE COMPARATIVE

#### introduction

In this lecture, we will learn about an important grammatical structure in English called the double comparative. We will explore how to use this structure to express relationships between variables.

double comparatives are phrases commonly used in English to express increasing or decreasing returns. English speakers often employ double comparatives to underline the importance of doing or not doing a certain activity.

**Structure:** The + comparative adjective + the + comparative adjective + noun (to express cause and effect or for comparison.)

Meaning and usage: we use the double comparatives to:

- Expressing direct proportionality (as one increases, so does the other).
- Expressing inverse proportionality (as one increases, the other decreases).

#### Examples:

- The bigger the city, the higher the cost of living.
- The more dense a city is, the greater the need for public transportation.
  - The higher the building, the stronger the foundation must be.
- The closer a building is to a major road, the higher the noise level.
- The more traffic congestion there is, the worse the air quality becomes.
  - The more urban sprawl there is, the less green space remains
  - The higher the noise pollution, the lower the quality of life.

### double comparative "more and more"

In this lecture, we will focus on a specific type of double comparative in English, using "more and more". We will explore how this structure can be used to express a continuous increase in a particular quality, with a focus on its applications in urban planning.

### 1/ Using long adjectives:

Structure: • Cities are becoming more and more crowded. (More and more + long adjective + nounThis structure is used to describe a continuous increase over time.)

## **Examples:**

- Urban populations are becoming more and more diverse.
- Urban sprawl is consuming more and more agricultural land.
- •Climate change is making extreme weather events more and more frequent.
  - •Infrastructure is becoming more and more outdated.
- •Air pollution is becoming more and more severe in urban centers.
  - The demand for infrastructure is growing more and more.
  - More and more people are migrating to urban areas.
  - •Cities are expanding more and more rapidly.

## 2/ Using short adjectives: ... adjective+ ER AND adjective+ ER

## Examples:

- The bigger the city, the more crowded it becomes.
- The faster the population grows, the more stress on infrastructure.
- The cheaper the housing, the lower the quality.
- The bigger the city, the less green space.
- The older the infrastructure, the more repairs needed.

## Double comparison - less and less

This grammatical structure is particularly useful for expressing a continuous decrease in something.

#### **Structure:**

#### 1/Less and less + uncountable noun

Less and less clean air is available in polluted cities.

There is less and less green space in cities.

#### 2/Fewer and fewer + countable noun

## Examples:

- There are fewer and fewer affordable housing options.
- There is less and less agricultural land available for urban development.
- There are fewer and fewer mall businesses in urban centers.
- here are fewer and fewer natural resources available for urban consumption.
  - There is less and less clean water available in many cities.
  - There is less and less biodiversity in urban areas.
  - There is less and less clean air in polluted cities.

#### THE EXCEPTIONS: GOOD// BAD// FAR.

ADJECTIVES	COMPARATIVES	DOUBLE COMPARATIVES
Good	better than	better and better.
Bad	worse than	worse and worse.
Far	farther than/	farther and farther. further and further.