

Phrases for Making Comparisons

A. These phrases are used to compare things with an **adjective between the comparing words (Notice that “que” and “como” do not have accents because they are not interrogative words):**

1. **más . . . que** = more . . . than
 El béisbol es **más interesante que** el fútbol.
*Baseball is **more interesting than** soccer.*
2. **menos . . . que** = less . . . than
 Josh es **menos guapo que** Nick.
*Josh is **less good-looking than** Nick.*
3. **tan . . . como** = as . . . as
 Daniel es **tan gordo como** su gato.
*Daniel is **as fat as** his cat.*

B. These phrases are also used to compare things *without* the adjective between them:

1. **más que** = more than
 Me gusta el perro de Josh **más que** él.
*I like Josh's dog **more than** (I like) him.*
 2. **menos que** = less than
 Me gusta correr **menos que** comer.
*I like to run **less than** (I like) to eat.*
 3. **tanto como** = as much as (singular)
 A él le gusta jugar al fútbol **tanto como** al béisbol.
*He likes to play soccer **as much as** (he likes to play) baseball.*
 4. **tantos como** = as many as (plural)
 Ella come **tantos dulces como** su amiga.
*She eats **as many sweets as** her friend.*
- Me gustan los burritos **tantos como** las enchiladas.
*I like burritos **as much as** (I like) enchiladas.*

C. When you talk about numbers, you must use **más de or **menos de** (not “que”).**

1. La clase se termina en **más de** dos o tres minutos.
*The class ends in **more than** two or three minutes.*

Tienes que leer por **más de** diez minutos.
*You have to read for **more than** ten minutes.*

2. La película empieza en **menos de** cinco minutos.
*The movie starts in **less than** five minutes.*

D. Here are a few more words to compare things:

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| 1. mayor que | <i>older than</i> | Soy mayor que tú. |
| 2. menor que | <i>younger than</i> | Él es menor que su hermano. |
| 3. mejor que | <i>better than</i> | Chocolate es mejor que vainilla. |
| 4. peor que | <i>worse than</i> | Tú juegas al tenis peor que al baloncesto . |