

Grammar Lesson 14 : Modifiers

A. Modify the underlined words in these sentences to show a lot of stress.

1. My teenaged son listens to his music _____ loudly!
2. In college, students study _____ hard.
3. She works _____ every day.
4. Business is _____ good!
5. There's not much space in my seat. It feels _____ small.
6. My boyfriend and I go to that restaurant _____.
7. As soon as the sun sets, it gets _____ cold.
8. Cell phones are becoming _____ useful.

B. Modify the underlined words to show a medium amount of stress.

9. Winter is coming. _____ soon, they'll probably close the hotels.
10. We might be late. Traffic is moving _____ slowly.
11. Did you see that guy? He was _____ cute!
12. Wow, this AI technology is getting _____ good!
13. I _____ liked this movie in the beginning, but then it got really boring.
14. This car is _____ large. I don't need a car this big.
15. I can't understand my teacher. He talks _____ quickly.

C. Modify the underlined words to show a little stress.

16. I was hungry, so I ate _____.
17. These shoes are _____ small for me. I need a larger size.
18. She didn't have a lot of time, so she drove _____ fast.
19. I've only met him once, so I only know him _____.
20. Since I was _____ nervous, I played _____ badly.
21. After I exercised, I felt _____ tired.
22. Have you lost weight? You look _____ thin.

D. Modify the underlined comparative phrases to show a big difference.

23. Now that I have _____ more time, I read more.
24. Since I learned about animals, I want to eat meat _____ less.
25. Since I learned about animals, I want to eat _____ less meat.
26. He gets up _____ earlier than I do.
27. It's _____ colder today than yesterday.
28. I find math _____ more difficult than grammar.
29. A new car costs _____ more money than a used one.
30. This tree produced _____ fewer apples than that one.
31. You should sleep _____ more. You look tired.
32. I feel _____ worse today than yesterday.
33. The train takes _____ less time than the bus.
34. The book was _____ funnier than the movie.
35. He is _____ nicer than his brother.
36. New York City is not _____ as large as Mexico City.
37. The flight to Miami is not _____ as long as the flight to Sydney.

E. Modify the underlined comparative phrases to show a little difference.

38. Yesterday I was sick, but today I feel _____ better.
39. This cafe is _____ busier in the mornings.
40. When the weather is nice, I walk _____ more.
41. She understands _____ more Spanish than her brother.
42. I lived in Madrid _____ longer than my father.
43. This class is _____ less interesting.
44. I'm taking _____ fewer classes this semester.
45. Today's soup isn't _____ as good as yesterday's.
46. I can't run _____ as fast as he can.

ANSWERS

A. Modify the underlined words in these sentences to show a lot of stress.

1. My teenaged son listens to his music **very/really/quite** loudly!
2. In college, students study **very/really/quite** hard.
3. She works **a lot** every day.
4. Business is **very/really/quite** good!
5. There's not much space in my seat. It **very/really/quite** small.
6. My boyfriend and I go to that restaurant **a lot**.
7. As soon as the sun sets, it gets **very/really/quite** cold.
8. Cell phones are becoming **very/really/quite** useful.

B. Modify the underlined words to show a medium amount of stress.

9. Winter is coming. **Pretty/Sort of/Kind of** soon, they'll probably close the hotels.
10. We might be late. Traffic is moving **pretty/sort of/kind of** slowly.
11. Did you see that guy? He was **pretty/sort of/kind of** cute!
12. Wow, this AI technology is getting **pretty/sort of/kind of** good!
13. I **sort of/kind of** liked this movie in the beginning, but then it got really boring.
14. This car **pretty/sort of/kind of** large. I don't need a car this big.
15. I can't understand my teacher. He talks **pretty/sort of/kind of** quickly.

C. Modify the underlined words to show a little stress.

16. I was hungry, so I ate **a bit/a little**.
17. These shoes are **a bit/a little** small for me. I need a larger size.
18. She didn't have a lot of time, so she drove **a bit/a little** fast.
19. I've only met him once, so I only know him **a bit/a little**.
20. Since I was **a bit/a little** nervous, I played **a bit/a little** badly.
21. After I exercised, I felt **a bit/a little** tired.
22. Have you lost weight? You look **a bit/a little** thin.

D. Modify the underlined comparative phrases to show a big difference.

23. Now that I have **much/a lot/far/a great deal** more time, I read more.
24. Since I learned about animals, I want to eat meat **much/a lot/far/a great deal** less.
25. Since I learned about animals, I want to eat **much/a lot/far/a great deal** less meat.
26. He gets up **much/a lot/far/a great deal** earlier than I do.
27. It's **much/a lot/far/a great deal** colder today than yesterday.
28. I find math **much/a lot/far/a great deal** more difficult than grammar.
29. A new car costs **much/a lot/far/a great deal** more money than a used one.
30. This tree produced **much/a lot/far** fewer apples than that one.
31. You should sleep **much/a lot/far/a great deal** more. You look tired.
32. I feel **much/a lot/far/a great deal** worse today than yesterday.
33. The train takes **much/a lot/far/a great deal** less time than the bus.
34. The book was **much/a lot/far/a great deal** funnier than the movie.
35. He is **much/a lot/far/a great deal** nicer than his brother.
36. New York City is not nearly as large as Mexico City.
37. The flight to Miami is not nearly as long as the flight to Sydney.

E. Modify the underlined comparative phrases to show a little difference.

38. Yesterday I was sick, but today I feel **a little/a bit/slightly** better.
39. This cafe is **a little/a bit/slightly/not much** busier in the mornings.
40. When the weather is nice, I walk **a little/a bit/slightly** more .
41. She understands **a little/a bit/slightly** more Spanish than her brother.
42. I lived in Madrid **a little/a bit/slightly** longer than my father.
43. This class is **a little/a bit/slightly** less interesting.
44. I'm taking **a little/a bit/slightly** fewer classes this semester.
45. Today's soup isn't **quite** as good as yesterday's.
46. I can't run **quite** as fast as he can.