

Comparing Places- Comparatives Random Pelmanism Card Game Countries and nationalities vocabulary/ Comparative adjectives

Instructions for teachers

Decide which set(s) of cards you want to use with your class (countries, cities, etc) and if you want to include the adjectives on the cards, or not. Cut up one set of cards per group of two to four students, cutting off the adjective parts if you don't want to use it. If you are going to let students look at the suggested phrases, also make copies of that worksheet.

Ask the groups of students to spread the cards face down across the table. One student turns over two cards and tries to compare those two places, e.g. "Paris is much bigger than Cologne" or "Spanish food is far more famous than Norwegian food". If their partner agrees with the comparison and no one has used the same sentence before, they can keep those cards and score two points. You will need to decide if they have to use a different adjective each time, or if the same adjective with a different adverb (e.g. "slightly dirtier" after someone else has already said "much dirtier") counts as a different sentence.

If they can't think of any suitable comparison, if they repeat what has been said before or if they say something that isn't true, they have to turn the cards back face down in the same places as before.

Play then passes to the next person. Students do the same round and round their group until all the cards are gone or the teacher stops the game. The player with the most cards at the end of the game is the winner.

To make the game easier and/ or quicker to finish, the game can also be played with the cards face up, either from the beginning of the game or from at some point during the game if it is clear the students are making few successful comparisons.

Useful phrases for comparing places

...is	a little/ slightly quite a lot/ considerably/ substantially far/ much	more beautiful – uglier bigger/ larger – smaller cheaper – more expensive cleaner – dirtier closer to/ nearer... - further from... cloudier colder – hotter more corrupt more cosmopolitan more dangerous/ riskier – safer more democratic – more repressive more developed – more old-fashioned/ more primitive drier – more humid/ wetter drier – rainier/ wetter further east/ more easterly – further west/ more westerly flatter – more mountainous better for... - worse for... more historic more important longer more modern – more traditional further north/ more northerly – further south/ more southerly poorer – richer/ wealthier more popular more powerful – weaker snowier more stable – more unstable more touristic more tropical wider windier	than
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Cards to cut up
Countries to compare

Argentina	Argentinian	Australia	Australian
Austria	Austrian	Belgium	Belgian
Brazil	Brazilian	China	Chinese
Croatia	Croatian	Cyprus	Cypriot
Denmark	Danish	Egypt	Egyptian
England	English	Ethiopia	Ethiopian
Finland	Finnish	France	French
Georgia	Georgian	Germany	German
Greece	Greek	Iceland	Icelandic
India	Indian	Indonesia	Indonesian
Iraq	Iraqi	Ireland	Irish
Israel	Israeli	Italy	Italian
Jamaica	Jamaican	Japan	Japanese
Jordan	Jordanian	Lithuania	Lithuanian
Malta	Maltese	Mongolia	Mongolian
North Korea	North Korean	Norway	Norwegian
Pakistan	Pakistani	Peru	Peruvian
Poland	Polish	Portugal	Portuguese
Russia	Russian	Scotland	Scottish
South Africa	South African	South Korea	South Korean
Spain	Spanish	Sweden	Swedish
Switzerland	Swiss	Taiwan	Taiwanese
Thailand	Thai	Czech Republic	Czech
The Netherlands	Dutch	The US	American
Turkey	Turkish	Ukraine	Ukrainian
Vietnam	Vietnamese	Wales	Welsh

Regions etc to compare

Central America	Central American	Central Asia	Central Asian
Central Europe	Central European	East Asia	East Asian
Eastern Europe	Eastern European	Latin America	Latin American
MENA	MENA	North Africa	North African
North America	North American	Northern Europe	Northern European
Scandinavia	Scandinavian	South America	South American
South Asia	South Asian	Southeast Asia	Southeast Asian
Sub- Saharan Africa	Sub-Saharan African	The Atlantic	Atlantic
The Pacific	Pacific	The Antarctic	Antarctic
The Arctic	Arctic	The Caribbean	Caribbean
The Equator	Sub-Equatorial	The (Global) South	Southern
The Mediterranean	Mediterranean	The Middle East	Middle Eastern
The Balkans	Balkan	The EU	EU

Cities to compare

Athens	Athenian	LA	Angelino
Florence	Florentine	Frankfurt	Frankfurter
Geneva	Genevan	Guangzhou/ Canton	Cantonese
Moscow	Muscovite	Milan	Milanese
Naples	Neapolitan	Paris	Parisian
Rome	Roman	Birmingham	Brummie
Venice	Venetian	Vienna	Viennese
Liverpool	Liverpudlian/ Scouse	Bologna	Bolognese
Boston	Bostonian	Glasgow	Glaswegian
Hamburg	Hamburger	Indianapolis	Hoosier
Manchester	Mancunian	Milan	Milanese
San Francisco	San Franciscan	Sarajevo	Sarajevan
Warsaw	Varsovian	Washington D.C.	Washingtonian
Newcastle	Novocastrian/ Geordie		

Comparative adjectives presentation

Without looking above, write the correct comparative form of each word below.

...is		beautiful		–	ugly	than
		big	large	–	small	
		cheap		–	expensive	
		clean		–	dirty	
		close to	near...	–	far from...	
		cloudy				
		cold		–	hot	
		corrupt				
		cosmopolitan				
		dangerous		–	safe	
		democratic		–	repressive	
		developed		–	old-fashioned	
		dry	–	humid	wet	rainy
		flat		–	mountainous	
		good for...		–	bad for...	
		historic				
		important				
		long				
		modern		–	traditional	
		poor	–	rich	wealthy	
		popular				
		powerful		–	weak	
		stable		–	unstable	
		snowy				
		touristic				
		tropical				
		wide				
		windy				

Check your answers above. Other answers may be possible.

What are the rules for making comparative adjectives?

Write suitable expressions in the empty column above (second from the left). Then use the mixed answers under the fold to help.

-----fold-----

Mixed answers

a little
much

considerably
quite a lot

far
slightly

substantially

Country words presentation

Without looking above, write the country word for each nationality word below.

	Argentinian		Australian
	Austrian		Belgian
	Brazilian		Chinese
	Croatian		Cypriot
	Danish		Egyptian
	English		Ethiopian
	Finnish		French
	Georgian		German
	Greek		Icelandic
	Indian		Indonesian
	Iraqi		Irish
	Israeli		Italian
	Jamaican		Japanese
	Jordanian		Lithuanian
	Maltese		Mongolian
	North Korean		Norwegian
	Pakistani		Peruvian
	Polish		Portuguese
	Russian		Scottish
	South African		South Korean
	Spanish		Swedish
	Swiss		Taiwanese
	Thai		Czech
	Dutch		American
	Turkish		Ukrainian
	Vietnamese		Welsh

Look above for any you aren't sure about, the first time trying to memorise them with your pens down.

Check your answers above.

Nationality words presentation

Without looking above, write the correct nationality adjectives for each country below.

Argentina		Australia	
Austria		Belgium	
Brazil		China	
Croatia		Cyprus	
Denmark		Egypt	
England		Ethiopia	
Finland		France	
Georgia		Germany	
Greece		Iceland	
India		Indonesia	
Iraq		Ireland	
Israel		Italy	
Jamaica		Japan	
Jordan		Lithuania	
Malta		Mongolia	
North Korea		Norway	
Pakistan		Peru	
Poland		Portugal	
Russia		Scotland	
South Africa		South Korea	
Spain		Sweden	
Switzerland		Taiwan	
Thailand		Czech Republic	
The Netherlands		The US	
Turkey		Ukraine	
Vietnam		Wales	

Look above for any you aren't sure about, the first time trying to memorise them with your pens down.

Check your answers above. Then test each other:

- Read out a country word and nationality word (in either order) and get your partner to repeat them back with the country word first
- Say a nationality word and see if your partner can say the country
- Say a country word and see if your partner can say the nationality
- Read out a country word and nationality word and get your partner to identify which it is and say the other version