

LESSON 140

782 “The” + comparative ..., “the” + comparative ...

the sooner ..., the better

This structure is used to communicate that there is a relationship between two things. For example, “The colder it is, the more clothes I wear” means that I wear light clothes when it’s hot, more clothes when it’s cool, and a lot of clothes when it’s cold.

Would you say that the more we learn, the happier we become? Yes,
I’d say that ... ~ No, I wouldn’t say that ...

Give me a sentence with the words “the sooner ..., the better”.

The sooner we get the job finished, the better

responsible

council

At about what age do you feel that a person should be considered by law to be responsible for their own actions? I feel that ...

What’s a local town council responsible for? A local town
council is responsible for keeping the streets
clean, looking after public buildings and land etc.

scream

fright

frighten

horror

Do some people scream with fright during horror films? Yes,
some people ...

783 Have you ever been frightened by strange noises during the night? Yes,
I’ve been ... ~ No, I’ve never been ...

mean

Do you know anybody who’s so mean that they never even buy presents for their family? Yes, I know somebody ...
~ No, I don’t know anybody ...

Are young children sometimes very mean to one another at school? Yes, young children ...

thoughtless

What do we mean by a thoughtless person? By a thoughtless person, we usually mean someone who acts without considering how other people might feel

pale

sickness

What can make a person's face turn pale? Fright, fear, sickness etc. can make a person's face turn pale

-ish

When we add the suffix "-ish" to an adjective, it means "rather" or "more or less". For example, "France is not exactly a big country, like Russia or the USA, but it's biggish compared with countries like England and Scotland".

What meaning does the suffix "-ish" give when we add it to an adjective? The suffix "-ish" gives the meaning of "rather" or "more or less" when we add it to an adjective

784 Give me an example, please. The door is not exactly green, but it's greenish

We can also use the suffix "-ish" to mean "about" when we say a time of day. For example, if someone says that they will come to your house at "eightish", they mean "about eight".

Give me an example of the suffix "-ish" used to speak about a time of day, please. He woke up at sixish and went for a run

light – lit – lit

candle

failure

What are the three forms of "light"? The three forms of "light" are "light, lit, lit"

Do you keep any candles at home in case there's a failure in the electricity supply? Yes, I keep some ... ~ No, I don't keep any ...

What kind of things do you think make a party a failure?

I think the kind of things that ... are ...

upset

feel upset

terribly

What would I mean if I said "My plans for the future have all been upset by the interference of my father"?

If you said ..., you'd mean that he had not agreed with your plans, and had made you change them

If you upset a glass of red wine over someone, what'd you say and do?

If I upset a ..., I'd say "I'm terribly sorry" and would offer to pay for the clothes to be cleaned

If I said that I was feeling very upset today, what would I mean?

If you said that you were feeling very upset today, you'd mean that you were not happy because something unpleasant had happened

785 **wreck**

misfortune

shipwreck

How would you feel, and what would you do, if all your plans for the future were wrecked through some accident or some piece of misfortune?

If all my plans for the future were wrecked ..., I'd feel ... and I'd ...

Describe what happens in a shipwreck.

In a shipwreck, a ship sinks as a result of being attacked, hitting rocks, or being damaged in severe weather

sale

for sale

sales

advertisement

Do you think the sale of weapons by one country to another is wrong?

Yes, I think ... ~ No, I don't think ...

What can the owner of a shop do in order to increase sales?

In order to ..., the owner ... reduce prices, advertise in the press or online etc.

If you had a car for sale, where would you place an advertisement?

If I had ..., I'd place ...

Are there any particular times of year in this country when all the shops have sales?

Yes, there are ... ~ No, there aren't ...

When?

commercial

rival

Do you get annoyed by commercial breaks on TV?

Yes, I get ... ~

No, I don't get ...

786 Name me two companies that are big commercial rivals, please.

... and ... are big commercial rivals

“Some” in questions

We sometimes use the words “some”, “somebody” and “something” in questions instead of the usual “any”, “anybody” and “anything”. We generally do this when we expect a positive answer, and especially when we offer something to somebody. For example, “Would you like some more tea?”; “Is there somebody here you’re looking for?”; “Would you like me to buy you something nice for Christmas?” etc.

When do we use “some”, “somebody” and “something” in questions instead of the usual “any”, “anybody” and “anything”?

We use “some” ... when we expect a positive answer, and especially when we offer something to somebody

Give me an example of each, please.

“Would you like some wine with your meal?”;
“Did somebody just ring the doorbell?”;
“Would you like something nice for dinner?”

over

What do I mean if I say that my brother is over two metres tall?

If you ..., you mean that he is more than two metres tall

basement

Does the building where you live have a basement?

Yes, the building ... ~ No, the building ...

787 **bargain**

Is it possible to find some really good bargains in the sales?

Yes, it's possible to...

When you go to a market, do you bargain over the prices?

Yes, when I ... ~ No, when I ...

caution

cautiously

In what kind of situations do people have to act very cautiously?

People have to ... in dangerous situations

How many times do the police caution you about bad driving before they take away your licence?

The police caution you ... about bad driving before ...

Idiom 41

hard up = with very little money

e.g. I can't let you have any money this week; I'm really hard up.

What does the idiom "hard up" mean?

The idiom ... "with very ..."

Give me an example, please.

We were so hard up that we couldn't even afford a newspaper

788 **rapid**



Dictation 95

We spent the whole afternoon, gathering up the apples, that had fallen on the ground. A railway line does not have to be level, but it should not climb too rapidly, otherwise a train cannot run on it. When we weighed the cake, my father was very surprised. He had not realized it would weigh so much. The theatre seats were well made, so the audience were able to relax and watch the play in comfort. For one brief moment, I was certain he would succeed.



Do Revision Exercise 63