

Activity Type

Reading, writing,
listening and speaking
activity, pair work

Focus

Comparatives

Bicycle vocabulary

Aim

To compare information
about bicycles using
comparatives.

Preparation

Make one copy of the
A and B worksheets for
each pair of students.
Also, make one copy of
the follow-up worksheet
for each student.

Level

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time

40 minutes

Introduction

Here is a comparatives information gap activity for students to do in class. In the activity, students compare information about bicycles using comparatives.

Procedure

Divide the students into two equal groups (A and B) and give each student a corresponding worksheet.

Have the students read the paragraph on the worksheet.

After that, go through the vocabulary in the chart together as a class.

Students then fill in the chart with the bicycle information from the text.

Next, have the students pair up with someone from the other group (Student A and B). Tell the students not to show their worksheet to their partner.

Students then ask their partner about the other people's bikes and complete the chart with the information, e.g. 'How much did Elizabeth and Dae's bikes cost?'

You may wish to run through the questions the students need to ask before they begin.

Exercise B - Answer key

Bike info	Kameko and Marcel	Elizabeth and Dae
Cost	500 dollars	280 dollars
Weight	12 kilograms	11 kilograms
Purchased	this year	two years ago
Tyre thickness	thick	thin
Colour	sky blue; bright red	pale pink; pale orange
Condition	dirty	clean
Speed on roads	not really fast	fast
Speed on trails	fast	not really fast

(continued on the next page)

Note: This resource can be edited using a PDF editor.

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Procedure continued

Next, give each student a copy of the follow-up worksheet.

Students then use the bike information from the first worksheet to make comparative sentences, comparing the bikes.

Students begin by writing the comparative form of the adjectives on the worksheet.

Exercise D - Answer key

bright - brighter	heavy - heavier,
clean - cleaner	old - older
expensive - more expensive	thick - thicker
fast - faster	thin - thinner

Students then unscramble comparative sentences using the bicycle information to help them.

Exercise E - Answer key

1. K and M's bikes are brighter than E and D's bikes.
2. E and D's bikes are cleaner than K and M's bikes.
3. K and M's bikes are more expensive than E and D's bikes.
4. K and M's bikes are faster on trails than E and D's bikes.

Finally, students write true sentences to compare the bicycles using the comparative form of the adjectives on the worksheet.

Exercise F - Answer key

1. K and M's bikes are heavier than E and D's bikes.
2. E and D's bikes are older than K and M's bikes.
3. The tyres on K and M's bikes are thicker than the tyres on E and D's bikes.
4. The tyres on E and D's bikes are thinner than the tyres on K and M's bikes.

As an extension, students can compare past or current bicycles, cars, or other possessions with their partner.

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Student A

A. Read the following paragraph.



Kameko and Marcel have brand new mountain bikes. They love mountain biking together. They both bought their bikes from a bike shop this year. Kameko's bike is sky blue, and Marcel's bike is bright red. Both bikes have thick tyres for riding on trails. Each of their bikes weighs 12 kilograms and costs 500 dollars. They can't go really fast on roads, but they can go fast on trails. Their bikes are dirty because they ride on trails and sometimes the trails are muddy. They're happy with their bikes.

B. Fill in the information about Kameko and Marcel's bikes in the chart below.

Bicycle information	Kameko and Marcel's bikes	Elizabeth and Dae's bikes
Cost		
Weight		
Purchased		
Tyre thickness		
Colour		
Condition		
Speed on roads		
Speed on trails		

C. Now, ask Student B about Elizabeth and Dae's bikes, e.g. 'How much did Elizabeth and Dae's bikes cost?' Answer your partner's questions, but do not show your worksheet to your partner.

Student B

A. Read the following paragraph.

Elizabeth and Dae bought their bicycles two years ago at a sporting goods shop. Their bikes each weigh 11 kilograms, and they each cost 280 dollars. Elizabeth's bike is pale pink, and Dae's bike is a pale orange color. Elizabeth and Dae enjoy riding together. Their bikes aren't very fast on trails because they have thin tyres, but they can go fast on roads. They only ride on roads and on bike paths, and they only ride in good weather, so their bikes are still shiny and clean. They like their bikes.



B. Fill in the information about Elizabeth and Dae's bikes in the chart below.

Bicycle information	Elizabeth and Dae's bikes	Kameko and Marcel's bikes
Cost		
Weight		
Purchased		
Tyre thickness		
Colour		
Condition		
Speed on roads		
Speed on trails		

C. Now, ask Student A about Kameko and Marcel's bikes, e.g. 'How much did Kameko and Marcel's bikes cost?' Answer your partner's questions, but do not show your worksheet to your partner.

D. Write the comparative form of these adjectives.

bright	heavy
clean	old
expensive	thick
fast	thin

E. Unscramble the following comparative sentences. Use the bike information to help you.

- are bikes Kameko and Marcel's than bikes brighter Elizabeth and Dae's

- Elizabeth and Dae's Kameko and Marcel's bikes bikes than cleaner are

- expensive bikes Kameko and Marcel's bikes Elizabeth and Dae's more are

- bikes trails bikes than are faster on Elizabeth and Dae's Kameko and Marcel's

F. Write true sentences to compare the bicycles using the comparative form of the adjectives in the box.

thin	old	thick	heavy
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- Kameko and Marcel's bikes

- Elizabeth and Dae's bikes

- The tyres on Kameko and Marcel's bikes

- The tyres on Elizabeth and Dae's bikes
