

Part 2: The + Comparative Adjective + The + ... Construction

What Is the “The + Comparative Adjective + The + ...” Construction?

This construction is used to show that two things change in relation to each other: **as one thing increases or decreases, the other thing also increases or decreases**. It expresses a correlation or proportional relationship between two variables.

Structure:

The + comparative adjective + subject 1, the + comparative adjective + subject 2

Example:

- The **bigger** the house, the **more** expensive it is.
- The **faster** you run, the **sooner** you arrive.

How to Use This Construction

1. Start with “The” + comparative adjective + first subject
2. Follow with a comma
3. Then “the” + comparative adjective or adverb + second subject

This construction often compares two things that change together, emphasizing a cause-effect or proportional relationship.

Examples

Sentence	Explanation
The more you practice, the better you get.	Increasing practice leads to better skill.
The colder the weather, the harder it is to go outside.	Lower temperature increases difficulty.
The earlier you start, the more you can finish.	Starting early allows more to be accomplished.
The louder the music, the more people dance.	Louder music encourages more dancing.

Sentence	Explanation
The higher you climb, the thinner the air becomes.	Altitude increase causes air to thin.

Important Notes

- Both parts of the sentence usually start with “**the**” followed by a comparative adjective or adverb.
- The adjectives/adverbs are often formed with **-er** or use “more” / “less” before the adjective/adverb.
- This construction can be used with adjectives (e.g., bigger, smaller) or adverbs (e.g., faster, more carefully).
- The two parts are linked by a comma, showing their relationship.

When to Use This Construction

- To express **cause and effect** relationships.
- To show how two things **change together**.
- To emphasize **proportional or correlated changes**.

Summary

- The structure is:
The + comparative adjective/adverb + subject 1, the + comparative adjective/adverb + subject 2
- It shows how two things increase or decrease in relation to each other.
- Use it to express cause-effect or proportional relationships clearly.

Keep practicing by identifying and using compound adjectives and the “the + comparative + the” construction in your writing to make your English more precise and expressive!