

EXPLICACIONES II

Los comparativos



Estos patines son **más caros** que éstos.



Esta canasta es **menos cara** que ésta.

Remember that when we compare things that are not the same, we use **más or menos + adjective + que**. We compare adverbs in the same way.

Eva siempre llega **más tarde** que Luz.

Eva always arrives later than Luz (does).

Yo olvido cosas **menos frecuentemente** que tú.

I forget things less frequently than you (do).

Remember that adjectives agree in gender and number with the nouns they describe. Adverbs never change.

1 Remember that some adjectives have irregular comparative forms.

bueno → **mejor** malo → **peor** viejo → **mayor** joven → **menor**

Este sombrero es **mejor** que aquél.

This hat is better than that one.

La nieve es **peor** que la lluvia.

Snow is worse than rain.

Bernardo es **mayor** que Graciela.

Bernardo is older than Graciela.

Mi tía es **menor** que mi papá.

My aunt is younger than my dad.

2 The adverbs *bien* and *mal* also have irregular comparative forms:

bien → **mejor** *mal* → **peor**

Tú escribes **mejor** que yo.

You write better than I (do).

Antonio canta **peor** que José.

Antonio sings worse than José (does).

3 To compare things that are the same or equal, we use tan + adjective / adverb + como. In English we use "as . . . as."

Él es **tan alto como** su hermano.
Corro **tan rápidamente como** él.

He's as tall as his brother.
I run as fast as he (does).

4 To compare two verb actions, we use más / menos que or tanto como. In English, we use "more / less than" or "as much as."

Trabajas { **más que**
menos que
tanto como } yo.

You work { *more than*
less than
as much as } I (do).

5 To use nouns in equal comparisons we use tanto, -a + noun + como ("as much . . . as / as many . . . as"). Because *tanto* is an adjective, it agrees with the noun that follows it in number and gender.

Tengo **tanto** dinero **como** mi hermano.

I have as much money as my brother.

Hay **tantos** chicos **como** chicas.

There are as many boys as girls.

Voy a traer **tantas** bolsas de papel **como** cajas.

I'm going to bring as many paper bags as boxes.

We can also use más and menos with nouns.

Hacemos **más** picnics **que** ellos.

We have more picnics than they (do).

Tengo **menos** palomitas **que** él.

I have less popcorn than he (does).

Olvido **menos** cosas **que** Uds.

I forget fewer things than you (do).

6 Remember that we use más de or menos de with numbers.

Tengo { **más de**
menos de } cien pesos.

I have { *more than*
less than } 100 pesos.