

1 Complete the email with the comparative forms of the adjectives below.

big cold crowded expensive good hot quiet safe

Message **Options**

Hi Jenny,

How are you? My life is very different now. I have a new job and I don't live in London any more; I live in Berlin now! It's amazing. I'm much happier now. Berlin is quite large, but London is 1 _____. It's 2 _____ than London and 3 _____, as fewer people live here. I prefer a quieter life, so it's better for me. The weather is 4 _____ here, too. The weather in the summer is 5 _____, but the winters are a lot 6 _____.

You need more money in London because it's a lot 7 _____ there. The people here are friendly and I also feel 8 _____ here when I walk around at night.

You should come and visit me soon!

Love,
Belinda

2 Write comparative sentences about Berlin and London with the adjectives below using the information from the table.

	London	Berlin	Your city
1 average amount of rain a year	600 mm	571 mm	
2 local bus ticket	3.38 euros	2.70 euros	
3 How far is it from the sea?	64 km	182 km	
4 age of the city	around 2,000 years old	around 800 years old	
5 average amount of sun a year	1410 hours	1625 hours	
6 size	1572 km ²	890 km ²	
7 average summer temperature	24 degrees	28 degrees	
8 clean air	7th best in Europe	5th best in Europe	

- 1 (dry) _____
- 2 (expensive) _____
- 3 (far) _____
- 4 (old) _____
- 5 (sunny) _____
- 6 (large) _____
- 7 (warm) _____
- 8 (polluted) _____

3 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Look at the information in the table. What do you know about your city? Compare it with London and Berlin.

I think our city is drier than Berlin and London.

5B Comparatives

Aims: To review and practise the comparative forms of regular and irregular adjectives.

Time: 10–15 minutes

Materials: 1 handout for each student

Exercise 1

- Give each student a handout and ask them to read the email. Ask: *Where is Belinda living now?* (Berlin)
- Students work individually or in pairs to complete the gaps with the comparative forms of the adjectives in the list. With a **weaker class**, you might want to read through the adjectives in the box and check they can remember the different comparative forms.
- Check answers by asking different students to read out sentences from the email. Tell the rest of the class to listen and raise their hands if they have a different answer. Confirm the correct answer with the class.

KEY

- 1 bigger
- 2 quieter
- 3 less crowded
- 4 better
- 5 hotter
- 6 colder
- 7 more expensive
- 8 safer

Exercise 2

- Students work in pairs. Read through the information in the table and check that they understand the information.
- Students write comparative sentences using the adjectives given. Set a time limit of five minutes.
- Check answers by asking different students to read out sentences. Tell the rest of the class to listen and raise their hands if they have a different answer. Confirm the correct answer with the class.

KEY

- 1 Berlin is drier than London.
- 2 Bus tickets in London are more expensive than in Berlin.
- 3 Berlin is further from the sea than London.
- 4 London is older than Berlin.
- 5 Berlin is sunnier than London.
- 6 London is larger than Berlin.
- 7 Berlin is warmer than London (in the summer).
- 8 London is more polluted than Berlin.

Exercise 3

- Elicit from students what they know about their own city.
- Students work in pairs. If you have access to the internet in class, you could ask students to do some research about their city. If not, ask students to guess what they think is correct, and then find out for homework.
- Check answers with the class and ask them if they agree or disagree with each other's answers.