

HSK 3 Grammar 4: Comparisons

HSK 3 comparison patterns, taught from the reviewed topic handout; classroom examples, not official exam items.

The comparison toolkit

比 more-than, 没有 not-as-as, 跟 比 for the yardstick, 更/还 for even more, 多了 for the big gap.

比: more than

- 1 **The frame** A + 比 + B + adjective: 这本书比那本书贵 — this book is pricier than that one.
- 2 **The adjective lands last** 比 does the comparing; the quality follows bare.
- 3 **Try it** Compare two real prices you know with 比.

Decision

The adjective takes no 很 — 比他很高 ×.

没有: not as ... as

比 — more than

你比我高。(Nǐ bǐ wǒ gāo.) — You're taller than me.

没有 — not as much as

我没有你高。(Wǒ méiyǒu nǐ gāo.) — I'm not as tall as you.

跟 比 (起来): the yardstick first

Hold it up against A

跟上海比，我老家的物价很低。 — Compared with Shanghai, prices in my hometown are very low.

妹妹跟姐姐比起来有点害羞。 — Compared with her elder sister, the younger one is a bit shy.

更 / 还: even more

Beating the benchmark

上海比纽约人口更多。 — Shanghai's population is even bigger than New York's.

他比姚明还高。(Tā bǐ Yáo Míng hái gāo.) — He's even taller than Yao Ming.

多了: sizing the gap

Gap size	Word	Example
Big	多了 / 得多 / 很多	拼音比汉字容易多了。 — Pinyin is much easier.
Small	一点	容易一点 — a little easier

Watch out: the forbidden 很

- A 比 sentence never takes 很 / 非常 — say 比他高 or 比他更高.
- 没有 comparisons keep the adjective bare too.

Check yourself

Your turn

Which pair is right? (1) Which word makes a comparison negative? (2) Where does 多了 sit?

- A. 不; before the adjective
- B. 没有; after the adjective
- C. 没有; before the adjective
- D. 比; after the adjective