

## Le Cheval 2.1 - comparatives

### Main activity

Have fun with grammar and language using a phrase from the soundtrack of the film.

\* Depending whether you want your children to do this follow-up activity in English or French, generate a list of adjectives and nouns with your pupils – from their existing knowledge or with the help of a dictionary.

\*Pick out the phrase “plus rapide que le vent” or “faster than the wind” from the film.

\*French language version

- translate the French phrase and establish which words are the comparative (plus rapide), which the definite article (le) and which the noun (vent).
- use a grid to substitute the different adjectives and nouns (with appropriate definite article) to create more sentences by choosing one word from each column of grid. The sentences may be sensible or nonsensical, but will always be grammatically accurate. There’s no need to make adjectival element agree, since this is a phrase rather than a sentence with a specific subject.

comparative			definite article	noun
plus	lent	que	le	vélo
	grand		la	lune
moins	rouge		l’	éléphant

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	fort		les	tomates
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- plus fort que l'éléphant
- moins lent que la lune
- stronger than the elephant
- less slow than (not as slow as) the moon

- with capable pupils, extend grid to include personal pronoun and forms of the verb être (\*this would require adjectival agreement if using *Elle/Nous/Vous* (plural)/*Ils/Elles*, if the *je* or the *tu* being addressed speaking was female)

pronoun & verb	comparative			definite article	noun	punctuation		
Je suis	plus	lent*	que	le	vélo	.		
Tu es					chien			
Il				est	intelligent*		la	lune
On								baguette
Elle								éléphant
	moins	rouge*	les	tomates				
Nous sommes		fort*		lapins				
Vous êtes								

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pronoun & verb		comparative			definite article	noun	punctuation
Ils Elles	sont		gentil*			maisons	

- Je suis plus intelligent que le chien.

I am more intelligent than the dog.

- Tu es moins fort que les tomates.

You are less strong than (not as strong as) the tomatoes.

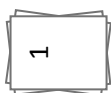
NB strictly speaking, when the meaning is more general eg:  
where the comparison is being made with a or some dogs  
rather than this particular dog for example, it is more accurate  
to use the indefinite article (a – un/une/des)

- Je suis plus intelligent qu'un chien.

You are less strong than (not as strong as) tomatoes.

However, this brings with it complications with gender again  
and apostrophes before a word beginning with a vowel which  
might take away some of the fun.

\*English language version



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- establish which word is the comparative (faster), which and which the noun (wind)
- substitute different adjectives and nouns to create more comparative sentences – sensible or nonsensical but grammatically accurate.

