

Unit 103

Comparison (3) - as ... as / that

a Study this example situation:



Joe, Henry and Arthur are all millionaires. They are all very rich. Joe has \$5 million, Henry has \$4 million and Arthur has \$2 million. So:

Henry is rich.
He is **richer than** Arthur.
But he **isn't as rich as** Joe. (= Joe is **richer than** he is)

Here are some more examples of **not as ... as**:

- Jack **isn't as old as** he looks. (= he looks **older than** he is.)
- The city centre **wasn't as crowded this morning as** it usually is. (= it is usually **more crowded**)
- Jim **didn't do as well in his examination as** he had hoped. (= he had hoped to do **better**)
- 'The weather's better today, isn't it?' 'Yes, it's **not as cold.**' (= yesterday was **colder**)
- I **don't know as many people as** you do. (= you know **more people**)

You can also say 'not **so ... as**' (instead of 'not **as ... as**')

- Henry **isn't so rich as** Joe.

b You can also use **as ... as** (but not 'so ... as') in positive sentences and in questions:

- I'm sorry I'm late. I got here **as fast as** I could.
- There's plenty of food, so eat **as much as** you like.
- Let's walk. It's **just as quick as** taking the bus.
- Can you send me the money **as soon as** possible, please?

We also say **twice as ... as**, **three times as ... as** etc.

- Petrol is **twice as expensive as** it was a few years ago.
- Their house is about **three times as big as** ours.

c We say **the same as** (*not* 'the same like'):

- Ann's salary is **the same as** mine. (*or* Ann gets **the same salary as** me.)
- Tom is **the same age as** George.
- 'What would you like to drink?' 'I' have **the same as** last time.'

d After **than** and **as** it is more usual to say **me/him/her/them/us** when there is no verb. Compare these sentences:

- You are taller **than I am.** *but:* You are taller **than me.**
- They have more money **than we have.** *but:* They have more money **than us.**
- I can't run as fast **as he can.** *but:* I can't run as fast **as him.**

b You can also use **as ... as** (but not 'so ... as') in positive sentences

