

Comparing & Evaluating

We'll learn how to...

- Show a big difference, a small difference, or no difference between things.
- Describe whether something is **effective or not effective**.
- Use phrases correctly depending on the **style or format** — informal, neutral, or semi-formal/formal.



1. Big Difference

- **Informal:** loads ... than, way ... than
- **Neutral:** much ... than, nowhere near as ... as, nothing like as ... as
- **Semi-formal/Formal:** considerably ... than, infinitely ... than

Examples:

e.g. This phone is loads better than my old one. The battery lasts way longer. (Informal)

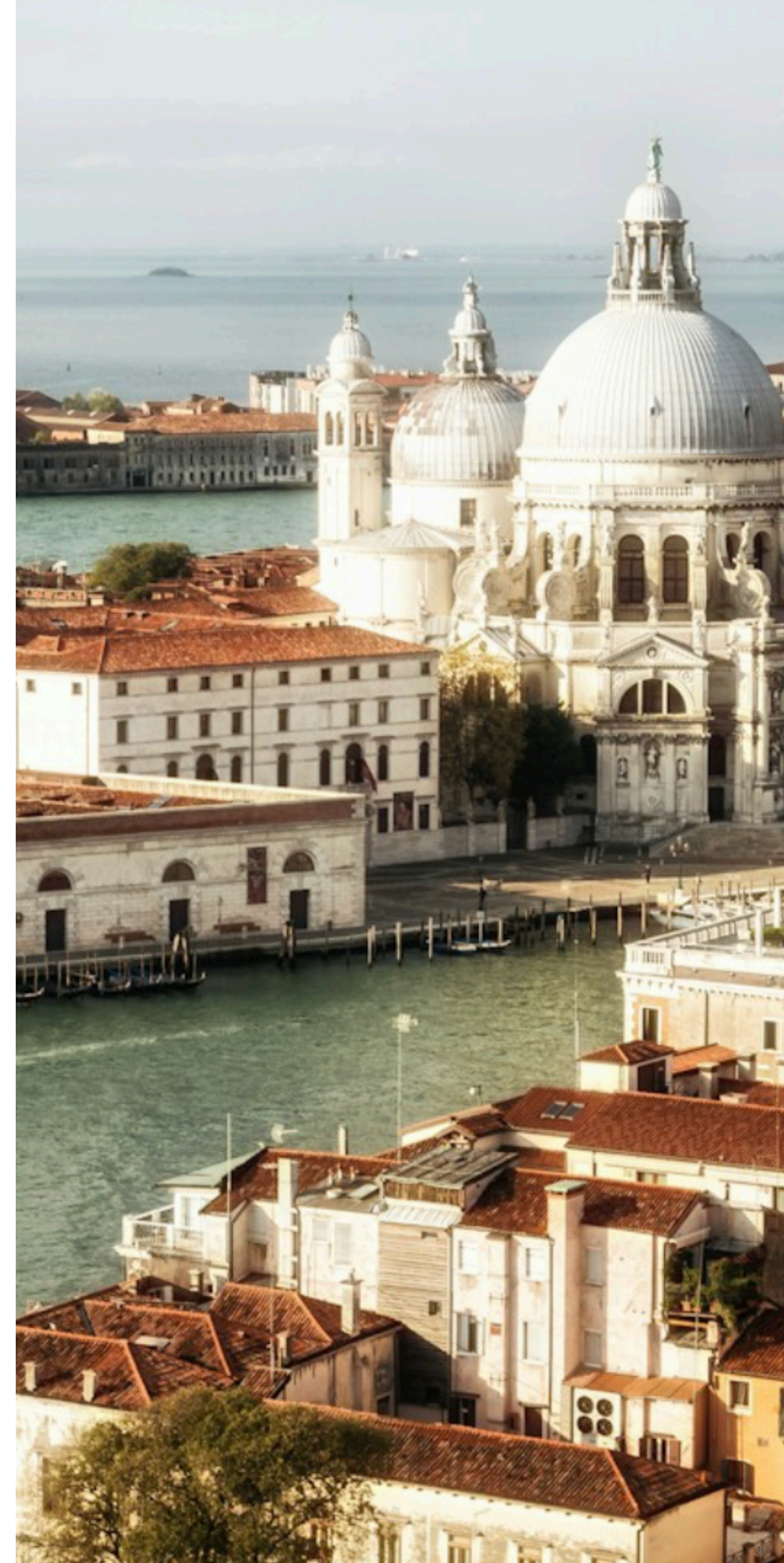
e.g. The train is much faster than taking the bus. (Neutral)

e.g. This movie is nowhere near as exciting as the first one. (Neutral)

e.g. That explanation is nothing like as clear as the teacher's version. (Neutral)

e.g. Living in the city is considerably more expensive than living in the countryside.” (Semi-formal/Formal)

e.g. A tablet can be infinitely more convenient than carrying a heavy laptop. (Semi-formal/Formal)



2. Small Difference

- **Neutral:** a little ... than, slightly ... than, a bit ... than, almost as ... as
- **Semi-formal/Formal:** marginally ... than

Examples:

e.g. This restaurant is a bit cheaper than the one across the street. (Neutral)

e.g. He's almost as tall as his brother. (Neutral)

e.g. The new policy is marginally more effective than the old one. (Semi-formal/Formal)



3. No Difference

- **Neutral:** just as ... as, every bit as ... as, equally ... as

Examples:

e.g. This online course is just as helpful as the in-person one.

e.g. She's every bit as confident as her colleague.

e.g. The new design is equally attractive as the old version.



4. Evaluation

- **To describe something as effective or useful, we use neutral or formal phrases:**
 - ❖ be valuable to/for someone
 - ❖ be invaluable to/for someone
 - ❖ be effective for someone
 - ❖ be useful for someone
 - ❖ be effective in (doing something)
 - ❖ be useful in (doing something)

Examples:

e.g. Daily exercise is invaluable for maintaining good health.

e.g. The new app is effective in helping students manage their time.

e.g. Peer feedback can be very useful in improving writing skills.



4. Evaluation

- **To describe something as NOT effective or useful, we use neutral or formal phrases:**
 - ❖ be useless for someone
 - ❖ be useless at (doing something)
 - ❖ be a waste of time/energy (for someone)
 - ❖ be ineffective for someone
 - ❖ be ineffective in (doing something)
 - ❖ be unhelpful for someone

Examples:

e.g. This tool is useless for advanced users.

e.g. Trying to study in a noisy café is a waste of time.

e.g. The campaign was ineffective in reaching younger audiences.

e.g. That explanation was unhelpful for solving the problem.

