

Fewer VS Less - Then VS Than

Introduction - Fewer VS Less

Fewer refers to countable plural nouns (e.g. apples, students etc.) and means 'not as many'.

***Fewer hours** are required to complete this project.*

***Fewer than 10 students** chose Asian studies as their major this year.*

Less refers to uncountable nouns (e.g. water, noise etc.) and means 'not as much'.

*I'd like to learn how to spend **less time** procrastinating.*

*Bob has just started working there, so he obviously gets paid **less**.*

Less can also be used with numbers or expressions of measurement.

*If you weigh **less than 45 kilos**, you are underweight.*

*The cafe is **less than 1 kilometer** from here. We can simply walk there.*

Introduction - Then VS Than

Then is an adverb that can indicate a particular time in the past or future, what happens next, or the result of a situation.

*Max worked as a teacher **back then**.*

*Whisk eggs and sugar and **then** add flour.*

*If we don't call a cab, **then** we'll miss our flight.*

Than is a conjunction and it is used to compare one thing with another. It can be part of an expression (e.g. *rather ... than, no sooner ... than etc.*).

*Molly is taller **than** Ashley.*

*It's still better **than** being unemployed.*

*I'd **rather** hang out with them **than** stay alone at my place.*

Short Story Dialogue

- I've noticed that **fewer** people are interested in booking package tours.
- Yeah, I've thought of that too. I guess that it's really easy to find something on the Internet now, and it's likely that you'll pay **less** if you don't go to an agency.
- And **then** if you mess something up, no one will help you. Better be safe **than** sorry.
- Well, that's the risk what you're going to take.

Independent Practice - Fewer VS Less - Then VS Than

1) Fill in the gaps with fewer or less.

- a. You should worry! You can't really change this situation.
- b. By wasting food, we can set a good example to our citizens.
- c. kids play outside these days. They prefer gadgets to streets.
- d. If we don't place ads, and people will subscribe to our channel.
- e. If Kim wants to get into a good school, she needs to party

2) Fill in the gaps with then or than.

- a. This dress cost me less 10 dollars!
- b. First, you have to wash your face. you apply face cream.
- c. And only he realised what he has done.
- d. I don't think that going by bus is necessarily worse going by train.
- e. If you don't tell him the truth, someone else will.

Independent Practice: Answers - Fewer VS Less - Then VS Than

1) Fill in the gaps with fewer or less.

- a. You should worry **less!** You can't really change this situation.
- b. By wasting **less** food, we can set a good example to our citizens.
- c. **Fewer** kids play outside these days. They prefer gadgets to streets.
- d. If we don't place ads, **fewer** and **fewer** people will subscribe to our channel.
- e. If Kim wants to get into a good school, she needs to party **less**.

2) Fill in the gaps with then or than.

- a. This dress cost me less **than** 10 dollars!
- b. First, you have to wash your face. **Then** you apply face cream.
- c. And only **then** he realised what he has done.
- d. I don't think that going by bus is necessarily worse **than** going by train.
- e. If you don't tell him the truth, **then** someone else will.