

Fewer vs Less

Free B1-B2 Grammar Worksheet PDF | Britfluency

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Grammar focus

Fewer	Less
Use fewer + plural countable noun when you can count the things one by one. Examples: fewer mistakes, fewer cars, fewer people, fewer problems.	Use less + uncountable noun when you mean a smaller amount. Examples: less time, less money, less traffic, less information.
Fewer than + plural countable noun Use this before a number when the noun is plural and countable. Examples: fewer than ten students, fewer than five errors.	Less than + amount or measurement Use this with time, money, distance, weight and similar measurements. Examples: less than ten minutes, less than £20, less than two kilometres.
Meaning Fewer means not as many. It points to number. Example: There were fewer complaints this month.	Less + adjective/adverb Less can also make an adjective or adverb weaker. Examples: less crowded, less stressful, less carefully.

Core idea: use **fewer** for countable plural nouns. Use **less** for uncountable nouns, measurements and adjectives or adverbs.

Note: In everyday speech, some people use **less** with plural nouns. In careful written English, especially in exams and teaching materials, use **fewer** with plural countable nouns.

Fewer vs Less

Controlled practice | B1-B2

2. Choose the correct form

1. There are fewer / less cars on the road today.
2. I have fewer / less free time now than I did last year.
3. She made fewer / less mistakes in the second test.
4. We received fewer / less information than we expected.
5. The room felt fewer / less crowded after lunch.
6. He spends fewer / less money on clothes now.
7. Fewer / Less than ten people came to the meeting.
8. The journey took fewer / less than thirty minutes.

3. Match the sentence to the reason

Sentence	Reason
1. I get fewer emails at the weekend.	A. Uncountable noun
2. There is less noise after midnight.	B. Amount of money
3. She feels less nervous now.	C. Plural countable noun
4. It cost less than £20.	D. Number of countable people
5. Fewer than ten students were absent.	E. Less + adjective

Fewer vs Less

Practice tasks | B1-B2

4. Correct the mistakes

Write the corrected sentence. Use standard written English.

1. I have less books than before. _____
2. There were less people in the café today. _____
3. She wants fewer sugar in her tea. _____
4. We had fewer time to prepare. _____
5. The second test was fewer difficult. _____
6. The ticket cost fewer than £5. _____
7. There is fewer traffic in the morning. _____
8. I received less messages this week. _____

5. Complete the mini-dialogues

1. A: Is the new app better?
B: Yes, it has _____ problems.
2. A: Why do you like living here?
B: There is _____ traffic.
3. A: Is the course expensive?
B: No, it costs _____ than £50.
4. A: Did many students fail?
B: No, _____ than five students failed.
5. A: Do you feel stressed today?
B: Yes, but I feel _____ stressed than last week.

Fewer vs Less

Practice tasks | B1-B2

6. Complete with fewer, less, fewer than or less than

1. The shop sells _____ products than before.
2. I drink _____ coffee these days.
3. The delay was _____ five minutes.
4. _____ twenty people signed up for the class.
5. This job is _____ stressful than my old one.
6. There are _____ chairs than we need.
7. We used _____ petrol this month.
8. The ticket costs _____ £10.

7. Countable or uncountable?

Choose **fewer** or **less** for each noun phrase.

Noun phrase	Correct phrase
1. advice	fewer advice / less advice
2. complaints	fewer complaints / less complaints
3. furniture	fewer furniture / less furniture
4. accidents	fewer accidents / less accidents
5. luggage	fewer luggage / less luggage
6. emails	fewer emails / less emails

Fewer vs Less

Speaking and writing | B1-B2

8. Speaking practice

1. Do you have less free time now than you had five years ago?
2. Are there fewer quiet places in cities than before?
3. What should people buy less of?
4. Would your town be better with fewer cars?
5. Do people need less advice or more advice when learning English?
6. What activity makes you feel less stressed?

9. Write your own sentences

1. Write one sentence with fewer + plural countable noun.

2. Write one sentence with less + uncountable noun.

3. Write one sentence with fewer than + number + plural noun.

4. Write one sentence with less than + time, money or distance.

5. Write one sentence with less + adjective.

Fewer vs Less

Vocabulary practice | B1-B2

10. Vocabulary and sentence practice

Choose five useful words from this worksheet and write one new sentence for each word.

Word	Your sentence
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Fewer vs Less

Error checking and reminders | B1-B2

11. Error-checking challenge

Read the short paragraph. Find and correct six mistakes with **fewer** and **less**.

Since moving to a smaller flat, I have tried to live with less things. At first, I bought fewer furniture and spent fewer money, but the flat still felt crowded. After a month, I gave away several boxes, and now there are less clothes on the floor. I also spend fewer time cleaning, so I feel less stressed. My electricity bill is less than £30 a month, and less than five neighbours have complained about noise.

12. Useful reminders

Do not say	Say	Why?
There were less mistakes in the report.	There were fewer mistakes in the report.	Mistakes are countable plural nouns.
I have fewer free time now.	I have less free time now.	Time is uncountable here.
The ticket cost fewer than £10.	The ticket cost less than £10.	Use less than with amounts of money.
The town has less residents than before.	The town has fewer residents than before.	Residents are countable plural nouns.

Answer Key

Fewer vs Less | B1-B2

2. Choose the correct form

1. fewer - cars are countable plural nouns.
2. less - free time is uncountable here.
3. fewer - mistakes are countable plural nouns.
4. less - information is uncountable.
5. less - less can modify an adjective: less crowded.
6. less - money is uncountable.
7. Fewer - people refers to countable individuals.
8. less - use less than with time measurements.

3. Match the sentence to the reason

1. C - Plural countable noun.
2. A - Uncountable noun.
3. E - Less + adjective.
4. B - Amount of money.
5. D - Number of countable people.

4. Correct the mistakes

1. I have fewer books than before.
2. There were fewer people in the café today.
3. She wants less sugar in her tea.
4. We had less time to prepare.
5. The second test was less difficult.
6. The ticket cost less than £5.
7. There is less traffic in the morning.
8. I received fewer messages this week.

5. Complete the mini-dialogues

1. fewer.
2. less.
3. less.
4. fewer.
5. less.

Answer Key

Fewer vs Less | B1-B2

6. Complete with fewer, less, fewer than or less than

1. fewer.
2. less.
3. less than.
4. Fewer than.
5. less.
6. fewer.
7. less.
8. less than.

7. Countable or uncountable?

1. less advice - advice is uncountable.
2. fewer complaints - complaints are countable plural nouns.
3. less furniture - furniture is uncountable.
4. fewer accidents - accidents are countable plural nouns.
5. less luggage - luggage is uncountable.
6. fewer emails - emails are countable plural nouns.

11. Error-checking challenge

Since moving to a smaller flat, I have tried to live with **fewer things**. At first, I bought **less furniture** and spent **less money**, but the flat still felt crowded. After a month, I gave away several boxes, and now there are **fewer clothes** on the floor. I also spend **less time** cleaning, so I feel less stressed. My electricity bill is less than £30 a month, and **fewer than five** neighbours have complained about noise.

Teacher note

The safest classroom rule is simple: **fewer** for plural countable nouns and **less** for uncountable nouns. Then teach **less than** separately for measurements such as time, money and distance. For B1-B2 learners, avoid overloading the lesson with informal uses such as *less people*, even though students may hear them.