

# Семьдесят четвёртый урок

**Диалоги**  
По-моему, Майкл лет на восемь старше Джанет

**Грамматика**  
More on Comparative Adjectives  
74.A Two more irregular comparative forms  
74.B Bare Genitive replaces чем + Nominative  
74.B How many times / By how much taller, smarter  
74.Г Comparative Adjectives in attributive position  
74.Д Larger and Smaller – Two exceptions (sort of)

## По-моему, Майкл лет на восемь старше Джанет *I think Michael is around eight years older than Janet*

Игорь	1	Как ты думаешь, кто богаче, Майкл Джексон или Джанет Джексон?	<i>Who do you think is wealthier, Michael Jackson or Janet Jackson?</i>
	2		
Света	3	Майкл, конечно! Он живёт в более дорогом доме, чем она. И у него машина побольше. Он в десять раз богаче её!	<i>Michael, of course! He lives in a more expensive house than she does. And his car is bigger. He's ten times wealthier than she is.</i>
	4		
	5		
Игорь	6	Кто старше, кто моложе?	<i>Who's older? Who's younger?</i>
Света	7	По-моему, Майкл лет на восемь старше Джанет.	<i>I think Michael is around eight years older than Janet is.</i>
Игорь	8	А кто выше, кто ниже?	<i>And who's taller? Who's shorter?</i>
Света	9	Если я не ошибаюсь, он выше её на пять сантиметров. Но он ниже своего старшего брата Тито на два сантиметра.	<i>If I'm not mistaken, Michael is five centimeters taller than she is. But he's two centimeters shorter than his older brother Tito.</i>
	10		
	11		
Игорь	12	А кто чаще моется?	<i>Who bathes more often?</i>
Света	13	Майкл моется раз пять в день, а Джанет только раз в день.	<i>Michael bathes about five times a day, while Janet only (bathes) once a day.</i>
	14		
Игорь	15	А кто толще, кто тоньше? На сколько килограмм он тяжелее? Или, может быть, он легче её?	<i>Who fatter? Who's thinner? How many kilograms heavier is he? Or perhaps he's lighter than she is?</i>
	16		
	17		
Света	18	Откуда я знаю, сколько они весят?	<i>How should I know how much they weigh?</i>
Игорь	19	А ты сколько вешишь?	<i>How much do you weigh?</i>
Света	20	Это тебя не касается. Женщин об этом не спрашивают.	<i>That's none of your business. Women are not asked about such things.</i>
	21		

## Словарь

4	побольше поменьше	<i>larger (See grammar) smaller</i>
5	в # раз(а) + <i>Comparative</i>	<i># times smarter, richer, etc. (See grammar)</i>
7	на # + <i>Comparative</i>	<i>by # taller, shorter, older, etc. (See grammar)</i>
8	низкий; ниже	<i>low; shorter (You can say Она высокая She's tall, but Она низкая means She's a low(-life) person. However, the comparative form ниже means shorter.)</i>
10	сантиметр	<i>centimeter (1 inch = 2.54 centimeters)</i>
15	толстый	<i>fat; thick</i>
15	тонкий	<i>thin</i>

16	килогра́мм	<i>kilogram (2.2 pounds = 1 kilogram)</i> . Note that: 1) there are two <b>м</b> in this word in Russian; 2) the Genitive Plural is <b>килогра́мм</b> – the same as the Nominative. It's similar to <i>раз</i> and <i>челове́к</i> . The Genitive Singular is regular: <b>килогра́мма</b> .
16	тяжё́лый	<i>heavy</i>
18	веси́+	<i>weigh</i>
20	э́то не каса́ется + [Genitive]	<i>that's none of [person's] business; that does not concern [person]</i>

## 74.A Two More Irregular Comparative Adjectives

Here are two more slightly irregular comparative adjectives:

mutation	Regular Adjective	Comparative Degree with mutated consonant and unstressed -e
<b>СТ &gt; Щ</b>	то́лстый <i>fat; thick</i>	то́лще
<b>К &gt; Ш (unexpected)</b>	то́нкий <i>thin</i>	то́ньше (note the <b>Ь!</b> )

Романы́ Толсто́го то́лще, чем романы́ Достое́вского.

*Tolstoy's novels are thicker than Dostoevsky's.*

Его́ тре́тья жена́ то́ньше, чем его́ две бы́вших жены́.

*His third wife is thinner than his two ex-wives.*

## 74.B More Comparative Constructions

### 74.B.1 Bare Genitive replaces *чем* + Nominative

Yesterday we saw that **чем** is used to express *than*, after which most often follows the noun in the Nominative Case:

Она́ ста́рше, чем брат.

*She's older than (her) brother.*

Ма́ша бога́че, чем я.

*Masha is richer than me.*

You can also use the *Genitive Case* without **чем** following the comparative form:

Она́ ста́рше бра́та.

*She's older than (her) brother is.*

Ма́ша бога́че меня́.

*Masha is richer than me.*

You cannot use the bare Genitive when a *phrase* follows the comparative:

В При́нстоне всё доро́же, чем в Тре́нтоне

*Everything is more expensive in Princeton than in Trenton.*

\*В При́нстоне всё доро́же Тре́нтоне (\*Impossible)



Make the comparison. Use the Genitive whenever possible.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Я / толстый / ты.                        | 2. Тамара / тонкая / Гэна.   |
| 3. Кто / богатый / он?                      | 4. В Москвѣ / холодно / в Париже.  |
| 5. Ты / добрая / твоя сестра.               | 6. В Рокки / чисто / в Фёрбсе.   |
| 7. Никто / умный / я.                       | 8. Стѣпа / ленивый / все. ( <i>think!</i> )                                  |
| 9. Все / бедные / Билл.                     | 10. В субботу / будет тепло / сегодня.                                       |
| 11. Она бѣгает / быстро / он.               | 12. Мйша говорит / тихо / мышь.  |
| 13. Маша / играет в шахматы / плохо / Вѣра. | 14. Студѣнты в Принстоне / говорят по-русски / хорошо / студѣнты в Гарварде. |

## 74.Б.2 How many times / By how much one thing is better, faster, taller, etc.

Yesterday we saw the use of **гораздо (умнее, глупее, etc.) чем** *much (smarter, stupider, etc) than*. Today we'll look at two more comparative constructions:

- 1) To say that someone/something is # times smarter (richer, etc.) use:

**в + # + раз(а) + Comparative + чем (or Genitive)**

The number goes into the Accusative, as you can see with **в тысячу раз**.

Я <b>в десять раз</b> умнее тебя (чем ты).	<i>I'm ten times smarter than you.</i>
Его фотоаппарат <b>в три раза</b> дороже моего (чем мой)	<i>His camera is three times as expensive as mine (my camera).</i>
Она <b>в два раза</b> старше мужа (чем муж).	<i>She's twice as old as her husband.</i>
Ира <b>в тысячу раз</b> добрее Оли (чем Оля)	<i>Ira is 1000 times nicer than Olya.</i>
В Принстоне всё <b>в сто раз</b> дороже, чем в Трентоне.	<i>In Princeton, everything is 100 times more expensive than in Trenton.</i>

- 2) To indicate *by how much* something is taller, (more expensive, etc.), use:

**на + Amount + Comparative + чем (or Genitive)**

Кира <b>на три года</b> старше Жанны.	<i>Kira is three years older than Zhanna.</i>
Юра <b>на пять месяцев</b> моложе меня.	<i>Yura is five months younger than me.</i>
Я <b>на три сантиметра</b> выше её.	<i>I'm three centimeters taller than her.</i>
Яша <b>на десять сантиметров</b> ниже жены.	<i>Yasha is ten centimeters shorter than his wife.</i>
Этот самовар <b>на сто рублей</b> дороже твоего.	<i>This samovar is 100 rubles more expensive than yours.</i>
Сегодня <b>на сорок градусов</b> холоднее, чем вчера.	<i>It's 40° colder today than yesterday.</i>

To say that you *weigh more or less* than someone, use **тяжелее** or **лёгче**:

Он тяжелее своей жены на десять килограмм.	<i>He's ten kilograms heavier than his wife.</i>
Я легче моего брата на три килограмма.	<i>I'm three kilograms lighter than my brother.</i>



### Translate

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. A Mercedes (Мерседес) is twice as expensive as a Volkswagen (Фольксваген).    | 2. A Volkswagen is \$20,000 cheaper than a Mercedes.   |
| 3. My elephant is ten times heavier than your tiger.                             | 4. My tiger is 500 kilograms lighter than your elephant.   |
| 5. He's ten times smarter than his professor.                                    | 6. Today it's ten degrees warmer than yesterday.   |
| 7. In my room (У меня в комнате) it's ten times cleaner than in the dining hall. | 8. His last film is an hour longer ( <i>remember this adjective?</i> ) than "Shakespeare in Love" (Влюблённый Шекспир) |
| 9. A PC is twice as cheap as a Macintosh.  | 10. My grandfather is 35 years older than his wife.  |
| 11. He's talking twice as loud as the radio.                                     | 12. "War and Peace" is 1000 pages longer than "The Brothers Karamazov". (Братья Карамазовы)                            |

## 74.B Comparative Adjectives in Attributive Position (Before Noun)

***I want a more expensive car. She wants to marry a smarter man.***

Recall from yesterday that comparative forms like **старше**, **умнее**, **выше**, etc., can only appear in predicate position (after some version of the verb *be*) in Nominative Case. To use a comparative in attributive position (preceding the noun) you must use either **более** *more* or **мнее** *less* (both unchanging) plus the regular adjective in the correct CNG. This is different from English, where there is no difference in form between a (positive<sup>1</sup>) predicate comparative adjective vs. attributive adjective: *My room is cleaner / I want a cleaner room*. These forms are not interchangeable in Russian:

В России Пётр Пушкин <b>более популярный</b> писатель, чем Достоевский.	<i>In Russia, Pushkin is a more popular writer than Dostoevsky.</i>
Я хочу <b>мнее дорогую</b> машину.	<i>I want a less expensive car.</i>
Мы хотим <b>более чистого</b> профессора.	<i>We want a cleaner professor.</i>
Она писала о <b>мнее талантливой</b> певице.	<i>She wrote about a less talented singer.</i>
Я хочу <b>мнее дорогую</b> машину.	<i>I want a less expensive car.</i>
Мы хотим <b>более чистого</b> профессора.	<i>We want a cleaner professor.</i>
Она писала о <b>мнее талантливой</b> певице.	<i>She wrote about a less talented singer.</i>
Мои родители хотят, чтобы я женился на <b>более богатой</b> девушке.	<i>My parents want me to marry a richer woman.</i>
Я никогда не встречал <b>более глупых</b> людей!	<i>I've never met stupider people!</i>
Он хочет общаться с <b>мнее грубыми</b> людьми.	<i>He wants to associate with less rude people.</i>

<sup>1</sup> Note that the -er form in English implies 'more'. To say 'less' you must overtly use that form: *I want a less expensive car.*



1. Princeton is a more prestigious university than Rider.
2. I used to live in a cleaner room.
3. I like to think about more serious problems.
4. I used to associate with ruder people.
5. Masha wants to find a smarter dog.
6. I have never seen a dirtier dining hall. (*Use the Genitive of Negation.*)
7. I envy more talented musicians.
8. My parents want me to marry a richer man.
9. Galya used to go out with smarter guys.
10. Chicago is a more dangerous city than Detroit.

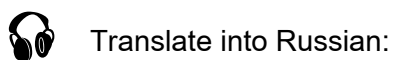
### 74.Г Large and Smaller- Two Exceptions (Sort of)

We saw in the last lesson (and previously) that the comparative (and superlative) adjectives **лучший** *better; best* and **худший** *worse; worst* can be used in attributive position. (In direct contradiction to the point discussed just above.) The forms for *larger* and *smaller* also violate the above point – i.e., there are no possible forms **\*более большóй** or **\*мéнее малéнький**, etc. (\* indicates ungrammatical forms). Instead use the forms **побóльше** / **помéньше** after the noun in question:

Я живú в дóме побóльше, чем егó.	<i>I live in a bigger house than his (house).</i>
Она купíла машíну помéньше, чем моя́.	<i>She bought a smaller car than mine.</i>

In fact, you can use this same form, **по-Comparative**, with many adjectives:

Я хочú самовáр подешéвле.	<i>I want a cheaper (less expensive) samovar.</i>
Мне нрáвятся пáрни потóлще.	<i>I like guys who are little plumper.</i>
Купí мне полотéнце подорóже.	<i>Buy me a more expensive towel.</i>



1. I want a larger skirt. (юбка)
2. We used to live in a smaller apartment.
3. I want a better car.
4. We were talking about the worst films of this year.
5. I want a cheaper aquarium.
6. Where is there a cleaner room here?





**Упражнение 1**

Write four sentences comparing things/people. Use both of the constructions (в # раз/а; на # ...).

new

1.

2.

3.

4.



**Упражнение 2**

Write 4 sentences with attributive comparative adjectives. Use a different Case in each sentence. Use one single-word comparative attributive form.

1.

2.

3.

4.



**Упражнение 3** Переведите на русский:

1. I'm three centimeters taller than my father.

2. I want a kinder elephant.

3. Dima is two hours older than his brother.