

## The Comparative Form (2)

Last week, in Comparative Form (1), we worked on the comparative of superiority and inferiority in French. Now, we are going to learn the comparative of equality.

**Goal:** By the end of this lesson, you should be able to use the expressions **aussi...que**, **autant...que**, and **autant de...que**, which correspond in English to **as...as**, and **as much/many...as**.

**Note:** Just like in part one of this chapter on the comparative form, we are going to reduce this present lesson to its most essential points, and memorize just what we need in order to use the comparative of inequality in French.

### 1) With Adjectives – Aussi...que (as ...as).

To make a comparison of equality using **adjectives**, you should use the expression **aussi...que**. Usually, the verb être is much used in this expression. I will provide the formula to use in that case, along with a few examples below:

**Formula:** Subject/Object A + verb (être usually) + **aussi + adjective + que** + Subject/Object B.

**Examples:** (Please, note how the adjective is placed between aussi and que).

- René est aussi intelligent que Marie. (*René is as intelligent as Mary.*)
- Nous sommes aussi patients que vous. (*We are as patient as you.*)
- Alyssa et Jacqueline ne sont pas aussi généreuses que Mère Thérèse. (*Alyssa and Jacqueline are not as generous as Mother Theresa.*)
- Les chemises sur la table sont aussi propres que les tee-shirts sous la chaise. (*The shirts on the table are as clean as the T-shirts underneath the chair.*)
- Est-elle aussi grande que lui? (*Is she as tall as him?*)

### 2) With Adverbs – Aussi...que (as...as).

To make a comparison of equality using **adverbs**, you should use the expression **aussi...que**. Usually, verbs will precede the expression. I will provide the formula to use in that case, along with a few examples below:

**Formula:** Subject/Object A + verb + **aussi + adverbs + que** + Subject/Object B.

**Examples:** (Note how the adverb is placed between aussi and que).

- Je conduis aussi lentement qu'une tortue. (*I drive as slowly as turtle.*)
- Cet étudiant travaille aussi sérieusement que les autres. (*This student works as seriously as the others.*)
- Mon docteur parle aussi calmement que le tien. (*My doctor talks as calmly as yours.*)

- Ce professeur corrige les examens aussi durement que celui-là. (*This professor grades the exams as harshly as that one.*)
- Ce philanthrope a contribué aussi généreusement que Bill Gates. (*This philanthropist has contributed as generously as Bill gates.*)

### 3) With Nouns – Autant de...que (as much/many...as)

To make a comparison of equality using **Nouns**, you should use the expression **autant de...que**. I will provide the formula to use in that case, along with a few examples below:

**Formula:** Subject/Object A + verb + **autant de + Noun + que** + Subject/Object B. (Please, note that if the noun starts with a vowel or a silent h, **autant de** becomes **autant d'**)

Examples: (Note how the **nouns** are placed between **autant de** and **que**.)

- Nous avons autant de pommes que lui. (*We have as many apples as he.*)
- Cet élève pose autant de questions que la classe entière. (*This pupil asks as many questions as the entire class.*)
- Cette banque a autant d'argent que celle-là. (*This bank has as much money as that one.*)

### 3) With Verbs – Autant que (as much/many...as)

To make a comparison of equality using **Verbs**, you should use the expression **autant que**. I will provide the formula to use in that case, along with a few examples below:

**Formula:** Subject/Object A + verb + **autant que** + Subject/Object B.

- Il travaille autant qu'elle. (*He works as much as she does.*)
- Elle mange autant que son amie. (*She eats as much as her friend.*)
- Monsieur Durand boit autant que sa femme. (*Mister Durand drinks as much as his wife.*)

Important: Please, note that there may be several other instances where these rules and formulas can slightly change depending on the sense the speaker gives to his/her sentence. There may also be a few additional variances not covered in this particular lesson. However, learning these above formulas can help you understand most of “comparative d’égalité” in French. For any questions about what you’ve just learned, please use the [forum](#). Merci ☺