

# Compare two things before buying

## HSK 2

Use the examples with their context and limits. Recall a sentence before reading the model. Original teaching additions accompany examples adapted from Chinese Grammar Wiki (AllSet Learning, CC BY-NC-SA); see the course reference provenance. Describe a difference and ask about the preferred item.

### Build the meaning

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A 比 B + adjective compares A with B: 这个比那个贵. Do not add 很 immediately after 比 in this basic pattern.

Use 更 to say even more: 这个更便宜. A description alone does not establish which choice is best for every person.

### Useful words in context

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- 比 bǐ – than, comparison. 这个比那个贵。
- 贵 guì – expensive. 这个很贵。
- 便宜 piányi – cheap / inexpensive. 那个更便宜。
- 颜色 yánsè – colour. 你喜欢什么颜色？
- 但是 dànshì – but. 便宜，但是太小。

### Read for meaning

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红色的杯子二十块钱，蓝色的杯子十五块钱。红色的比蓝色的贵，但是林安更喜欢红色。

The red cup costs twenty yuan and the blue one fifteen. Red is more expensive, but Lin An prefers red.

### Listen to a different passage

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Ask a partner to read this with the script closed. Use the online practice for browser playback.

这个杯子十块钱，那个十五块钱。这个比那个便宜。

This cup costs ten yuan and that one fifteen. This one is cheaper.

## Speak and write

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Compare two fictional cups by price. Ask which colour a partner prefers.

Write a comparison and then a preference.

**One speaking model:** A: 红色的比蓝色的贵。你喜欢什么颜色? B: 我喜欢蓝色。

**One writing model:** 红色的比蓝色的贵, 但是我更喜欢红色。

- Make the comparison direction clear.
- Give a preference separately.
- Use 但是 only where it marks a contrast.

**Check the distinction:** A 比 B 贵 means A costs more than B. Reversing A and B reverses the comparison.

Learn step by step · Practise and review.