

It looks like a normal sports car, it's as fast as a normal sports car, it drives just as well as a normal sports car, but it isn't a normal sports car. It's 100% electric. It may be twice as expensive to buy as a traditional sports car, but it's a hundred times more ecological and it isn't nearly as expensive to run. With this car, saving the planet isn't nearly as difficult as we thought – and it's much more fun!



Presentation

Use *as ... as ...* to compare two things and say that they are similar:

*It's **as fast as** a normal sports car.* (= Sports cars are fast. This car is equally fast.)

Use *just with as ... as ...* to emphasise the similarity:

*It drives **just as well as** a normal sports car.*

Use *not as ... as ...* to compare two things and say that they are different, and that one possesses less of a certain quality and ability than the other:

*It **isn't as expensive to run as** a traditional petrol-fuelled car.* (= It's cheaper to run than a traditional petrol-fuelled car.)

(not) as	adjective adverb	as	noun
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*It's **as cheap as** a bicycle.*

*It drives **as well as** a normal sports car.*

Also use *not as ... as...* to explain that an object, person or situation has less of a quality than you imagined:

*It **isn't as difficult as** we'd expected.*

Modifying *as ... as ...*

You can modify expressions using (*not*) *as ... as ...* to show the degree of similarity or difference.

- small difference: *This one is **almost as** exciting **as** that one.*
- big difference: *This one is **twice as** expensive **as** that one.*

Small differences

almost	as exciting as
nearly	as cheaply as
not quite	

Big differences

twice / three times ...	as expensive as
not nearly	as cheaply as

Common expressions

As ... as ... is used in a lot of common fixed expressions: *as soon as possible, as quickly as I can, as good as new, as good as gold, as old as the hills*

1 Put the words in order. Start with the phrase which is underlined.

Question:

Old-fashioned style or new tech comfort? Which camper van do you prefer?



1 popular as the new model isn't the original model as

.....

2 stylish not the new van as is

.....

3 it's as comfortable sleep to in just

.....

4 to run not expensive as the new model is

.....

5 the new one the old one big as as just is

.....



2 Complete the sentences using as ... as ... and the words in brackets.

- 1 bus (\$25) train (\$40): The bus isn't (nearly / expensive) the train.
- 2 car (5 passengers) van (10 passengers): The car isn't (quite / big) the van.
- 3 bike (no fuel) car (full tank of fuel): Obviously a bike isn't (nearly / expensive) to run as a car.
- 4 bike (30 mins) bus (30 mins): You can get there by bike (just / quickly) by bus.
- 5 January (4°) August (18°): The weather in January isn't (warm) it is in August.
- 6 bus (☺☺) train (☺☺☺): The bus isn't (quite / comfortable) the train.

3 Complete the common expressions with the words in the box. Then listen and check.

bad easy good much quickly young

- 1 A: Thanks for looking after the kids.
B: You're welcome. It was a pleasure. They've been as as gold.
- 2 A: Hi! Sorry I'm late. I got here as as I could.
B: Don't worry. We started without you.
- 3 A: You can fix the car, can't you?
B: Mmm ... I'm not sure. It isn't as as it looks.
- 4 A: Help yourselves to some food. Take as as you want.
B: Thanks! It looks delicious!
- 5 A: Look at this! It's ruined!
B: Let me see. No, it isn't as as you think. It'll come out in the wash.
- 6 A: Ouch! I'm not as as I used to be!
B: Watch out Fred. You're showing your age!