

## Unit 6

### 6.1 What ... like?

#### Form

what + to be + subject + like?

What	's (is) your teacher are his parents was your holiday were the beaches	like?	She's very patient. They're very kind. Wonderful. We swam a lot. OK, but some were dirty.
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#### Note

We don't use *like* in the answer.

She's patient. NOT ~~She's like patient.~~

#### Use

What ... like? means 'Describe somebody or something. Tell me about them. I don't know anything about them.'

*Like* in this question is a preposition, not a verb:

'What's Jim like?' 'He's intelligent and kind, and he's got lovely blue eyes.'

In the following sentences *like* is a verb:

'What does Jim like?' 'He **likes** motorbikes and playing tennis.'

#### Note

*How's your mother?* asks about health. It doesn't ask for a description.

'How's your mother?' 'She's very well, thank you.'

### 6.2 Comparative and superlative adjectives

#### Form

- Look at the chart.

		Comparative	Superlative
Short adjectives	cheap small *big	cheaper smaller bigger	cheapest smallest biggest
Adjectives that end in -y	funny early heavy	funnier earlier heavier	funniest earliest heaviest
Adjectives with two syllables or more	careful boring expensive interesting	more careful more boring more expensive more interesting	most careful most boring most expensive most interesting
Irregular adjectives	far good bad	further better worse	furthest best worst

\* Short adjectives with one vowel + one consonant double the consonant:  
*hot/hotter/hottest, fat/fatter/fattest.*

- Than* is often used after a comparative adjective.

I'm **younger than** Barbara.

Barbara's **more intelligent than** Sarah.

*Much* can come before the comparative to give emphasis.

She's **much nicer than** her sister.

Is Tokyo **much more modern than** London?

- The* is used before superlative adjectives.

He's **the funniest** boy in the class.

Which is **the tallest** building in the world?

#### Use

- We use comparatives to compare one thing, person, or action with another.

She's **taller** than me.

London's **more expensive** than Rome.

- We use superlatives to compare somebody or something with the whole group.

She's the **tallest** in the class.

It's the **most expensive** hotel in the world.

- As ... as* shows that something is the same or equal.

Jim's **as tall as** Peter.

I'm **as worried as** you are.

- Not as/so ... as* shows that something isn't the same or equal.

She **isn't as tall as** her mother.

My car **wasn't so expensive as** yours.

## Conversations

- 5 Work with a partner and continue these conversations.
- A I moved to a new flat last week.  
B Oh, really? What's it like?  
A Well, it's bigger than my old one but it isn't as modern, and ...
  - A I hear Sandy and Al broke up.  
B Yeah. Sandy's got a new boyfriend.  
A Oh, really? What's he like?  
B Well, he's \_\_\_\_\_ than Al, and ...
  - A We have a new teacher.  
B Oh, really? What's she like?  
A Well, I think she's the \_\_\_\_\_ teacher we've ever had ...
  - A Is that your new car?  
B Well, it's second-hand, but it's new to me.  
A What's it like?  
B Well, it's \_\_\_\_\_ than my old car ...

Act out a conversation to the class. Whose is the longest?

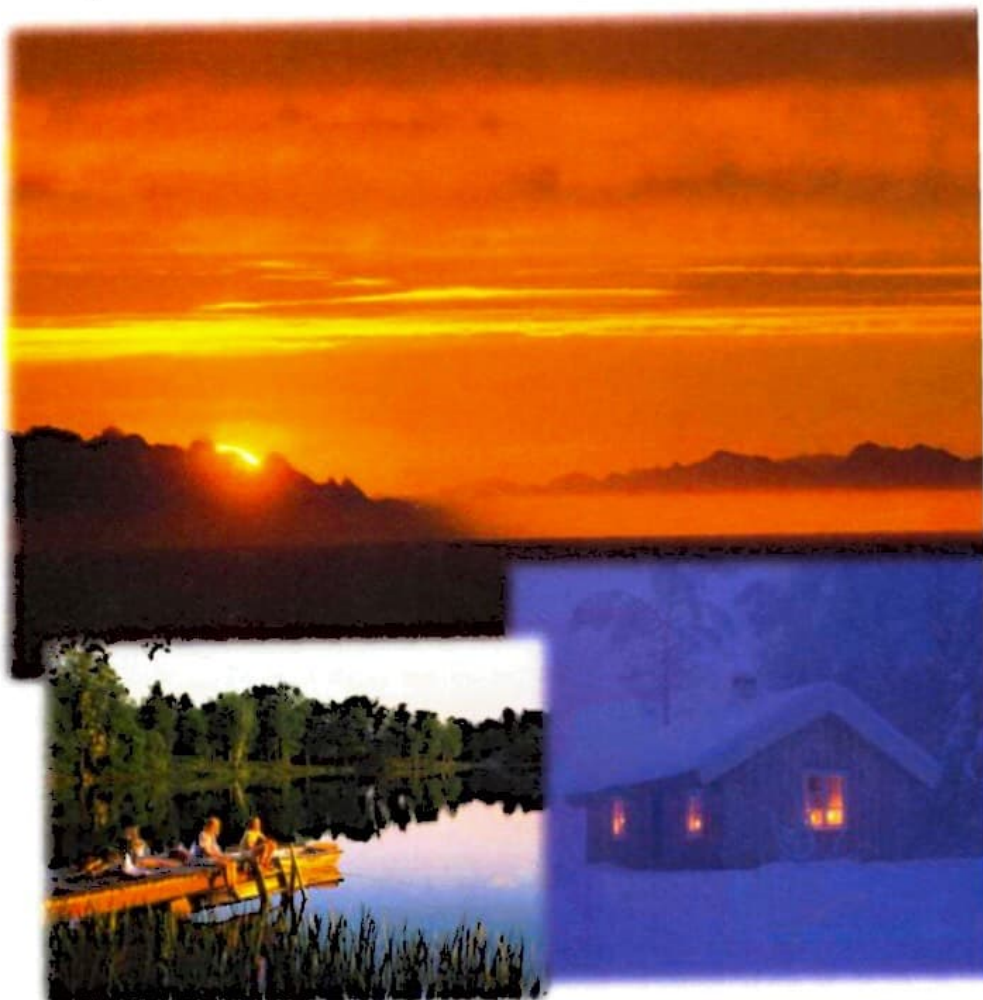
**T 6.6** Listen and compare. Repeat the last lines.

## Check it

- 6 Correct these sentences.
- He's more older than he looks.
  - Jessica's as tall than her mother.
  - 'What does New York like?' 'It's really exciting!'
  - Trains in London are more crowded than in Paris.
  - Oxford is one of oldest universities in Europe.
  - He isn't as intelligent than his sister.
  - This is more hard than I expected.
  - Who is the most rich man in the world?
  - Everything is more cheap in my country.
  - Rome was hotter that I expected.

## LISTENING AND SPEAKING

### Living in another country



- 1 What do you know about Sweden? What is the country like? What are the people like? Discuss these statements about Sweden. Do you think they are true (✓) or false (X)?

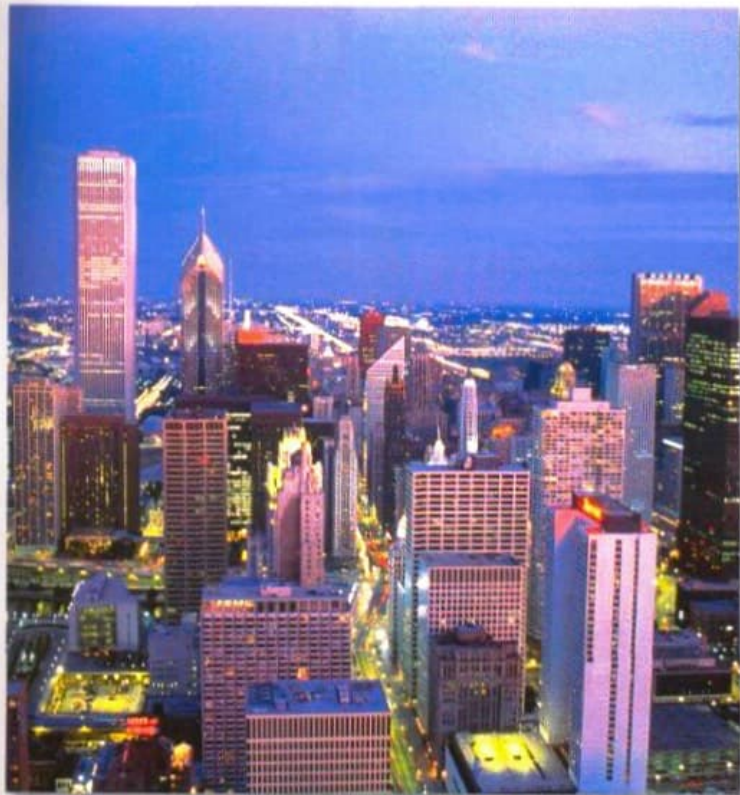
  - In winter there is only one hour of daylight.
  - Swedish people look forward to winter.
  - The houses are cold.
  - The houses are much better insulated than in Britain.
  - In parts of Sweden from May to July the sun never sets.
  - Londoners work longer hours than the Swedes.
  - Swedes always start work early in the morning.
  - Country cottages in Sweden are usually very luxurious.
  - All houses have a sauna.
  - The whole family like to sit in the sauna together.
- T 6.7** You are going to listen to Jane Bland talking to her friend, Fran, about her life in Sweden. Jane comes from London, but three years ago she married a Swede and went to live and work in Stockholm. Listen and check your answers to exercise 1.
- 3 Compare your country with what you learned about Sweden.  
*In my country it gets dark at five o'clock in winter, and it's much warmer.*



## PRACTICE

### What's Chicago like?

- 1 You are asking Todd about Chicago. Complete the questions with *is* or *are* and the correct words from the box.



the restaurants   the people   the night-life   the buildings

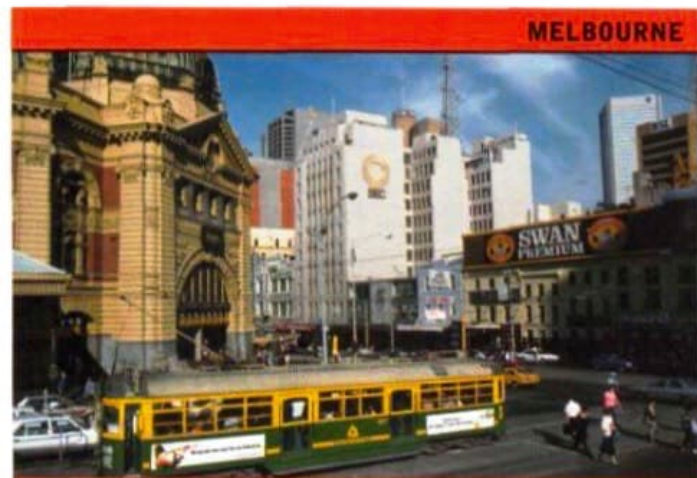
- 1 **You** What 's the weather like?  
**Todd** Well, Chicago's called 'the windy city' and it really can be windy!
- 2 **You** What \_\_\_\_\_ like?  
**Todd** They're very interesting. You meet people from all over the world.
- 3 **You** What \_\_\_\_\_ like?  
**Todd** A lot of them are very, very tall. The Sears Tower is 110 storeys high.
- 4 **You** What \_\_\_\_\_ like?  
**Todd** They're very good. You can find food from every country in the world.
- 5 **You** What \_\_\_\_\_ like?  
**Todd** Oh, it's wonderful. There's lots to do in Chicago.

- 2 **T 6.2** Listen and check. Practise with a partner.
- 3 Ask and answer the same questions about the town or city you are in now.

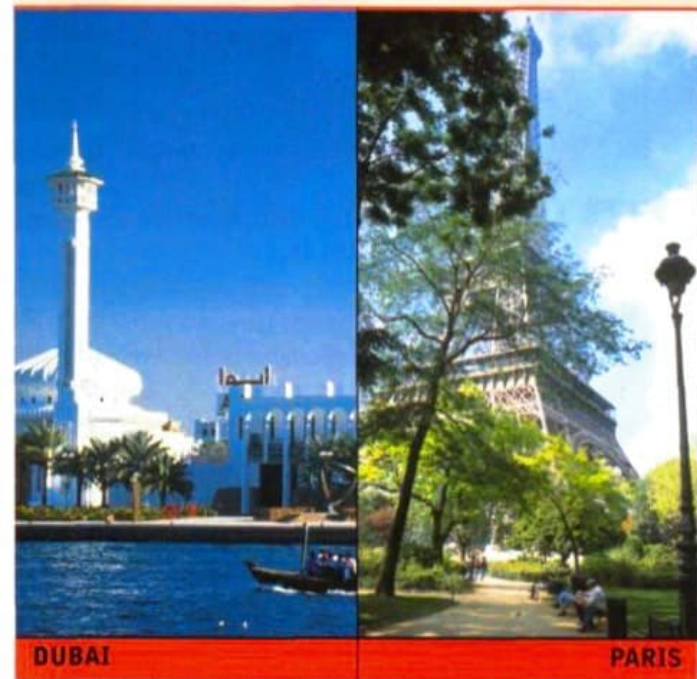
## BIG, BIGGER, BIGGEST!

### Comparatives and superlatives

- 1 Read the second part of the conversation with Todd. He compares the places he visited last year. Can you complete any of the sentences?



“ Melbourne was interesting, but for me, Paris was \_\_\_\_\_ interesting \_\_\_\_\_ Melbourne, and in some ways Dubai was the \_\_\_\_\_ interesting of all because it was so different \_\_\_\_\_ any other place I know. It was also the \_\_\_\_\_, driest, and \_\_\_\_\_ modern. It was hot in Melbourne but not \_\_\_\_\_ hot \_\_\_\_\_ in Dubai. Dubai was \_\_\_\_\_ hotter! Melbourne is \_\_\_\_\_ older \_\_\_\_\_ Dubai but not \_\_\_\_\_ old \_\_\_\_\_ Paris. Paris was \_\_\_\_\_ oldest city I visited, but it has some great modern buildings, too. It was the \_\_\_\_\_ romantic place. I loved it. ”



- T 6.3** Listen and check.