

## Complete and Logical Comparisons

### LNC Writing Center Review

When the PERT asks you about “complete and logical comparisons,” it is asking you to make sure that sentences in which something is being compared are clear about what is being compared to what. Look for these comparison words: **better, worse, more, less, fewer, as much, such, so.**

1. A “**than...**” phrase makes the comparison complete: it tells us what is being compared to what.

Incomplete

People who stop eating when they’re full are **healthier**.

Complete

People who stop eating when they’re full are healthier **than those who don’t stop eating when they’re full**.

People who stop eating when they’re full are healthier **than those who don’t stop**.

2. Often, “**do/does**” is needed to avoid confusion and keep the intended meaning clear.

Illogical

His best friend likes pizza **as much as him**.

Logical

His best friend likes pizza **as much as he does**.

Illogical

Parents often value reading **more than their children**.

Logical

Parents often value reading **more than their children do**.

3. “**Such**” and “**So**” will need a “that....” phrase for the comparison to be completed or will need to be replaced by a word that doesn’t suggest a comparison.

Incomplete

I am **so tired**.

Complete

I am so tired **that I’m going to get into bed early**.

I am **very tired**.

I am **quite tired**.

Incomplete

She was having **such a good time**.

Complete

She was having such a good time **that she lost track of the hour**.